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## AND YOU ARE...?



Wanda Pineau  
Psychic Medium  
A Sense of Serenity

### Did you know I was coming today?

No. Normally I don't focus on myself. I'm here to help other people.

### How did you discover your gift?

When I was about 17, a friend showed me a deck of Tarot. I had never seen anything like that before. I grew up on a farm in Saskatchewan. Then I had a series of dreams. The dreams showed me my spirit guides who told me that was what I should do.

### So how does it work then?

To be honest, the cards aren't strictly necessary. People are funny. They need to have something that they can see in front of them in order to believe, so we use the deck of cards. They're for you, not me. I use intuition.

### What are the most common questions people want the answer to?

I prefer to do reading for people without knowing the exact question, but when I do find out, the top three are relationship, career and then money. I'm always amazed that health is way down there at the bottom.

### Can people change the destiny you've foreseen?

I believe everything happens for a reason. I also believe that before coming to this life, we have written a "life chart," with our major learning lessons already planned out. Before being born, you have written when you want to be born, who your parents will be, who your brothers and sisters are going to be, where you will live, and when and how you're going to die. We are here to learn specific lessons that we did choose for ourselves.

### How can you tell a fake psychic from a real one?

You have to listen to yourself. When you walk in, if you're not comfortable around that person, that's a pretty good sign that they're not the one to help you.

### Do you ever doubt what you're doing is true?

No. Well, there was a point in my life where I thought I was losing my mind—I was seeing things and feeling things and hearing things that no one else did. But through the years, enough things have happened to me that I can't discount. Now I know that this is who I am. I've been doing this for 10 years—and I've had lots of repeat customers, so I must be doing something right.

JESSICA MCGOVERN

Read more at [seemagazine.com](http://seemagazine.com)



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EDMONTON, AB. T5J 1X8  
TEL (780) 430-9003  
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### Associate Publisher

Todd Kosloski  
[tkosloski@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:tkosloski@see.greatwest.ca)

### Editor

Kevin Wilson  
[kwilson@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:kwilson@see.greatwest.ca)

### Assistant Editor

Matthew Halliday  
[mhalliday@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:mhalliday@see.greatwest.ca)

### Entertainment Editor

Paul Matwychuk  
[pmatwychuk@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:pmatwychuk@see.greatwest.ca)

### News Writer

Angela Brunschot  
[abrunschot@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:abrunschot@see.greatwest.ca)

### Staff Writer

Zoltan Varadi  
[zvaradi@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:zvaradi@see.greatwest.ca)

### Art Director

Chul-Ahn Jeong  
[cjeong@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:cjeong@see.greatwest.ca)

### Assistant Designer

Lauren Conolly

### Sales Consultants

Samantha Hann (South)  
[shann@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:shann@see.greatwest.ca)  
Kathy Stachniak (Northwest)  
[kstachniak@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:kstachniak@see.greatwest.ca)

### Promotions Manager

Jeff Mah  
[jmah@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:jmah@see.greatwest.ca)  
Promotions Assistant: Erin Polowy  
[epolowy@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:epolowy@see.greatwest.ca)

### National Advertising

Jan Frolic, Magazine Network  
[jan@magnetwork.com/](mailto:jan@magnetwork.com/)  
(416) 538-1584

### Classified Advertising

Olya Prudka  
[oprudka@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:oprudka@see.greatwest.ca)

### Listings Editor

Fawnda Mithrush  
[fmithrush@see.greatwest.ca](mailto:fmithrush@see.greatwest.ca)

### Distribution Manager

Lorina Herbert  
Shane Bennet

### Production Editor

Sandra Edwards

### Production Team

Barb Polakowski, Christina Haggith  
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## IT'S JUST NOT FAIR

It is great that Scott Lingley wrote about Fair Trade chocolate products ("Raising the chocolate bar," *SEE #724*) since these products directly benefit the producers of cocoa. However there was some information in the article that is misleading to the public.

Green & Black's only produces one chocolate bar that is Fair Trade Certified (FTC). The rest of their product line is not FTC, so mention-

ing any of their other products would imply to your readers that these other bars are also produced in a similar process as the Maya Gold bar. The Maya Gold bar is G&B's flagship product and all other bars are riding on the coattails of its reputation—but in the big picture it is misleading the public. Endangered Species also produces a good-tasting chocolate bar and though they had a portion of their line FTC for about a year they have decided to do an in-

house "ethically traded" program. This does not involve the Fairtrade Labeling Organization (see [www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net) and [www.flocert.net](http://www.flocert.net)) which negotiates the standards for all Fair Trade Certified products and authorizes certifiers in a variety of countries. In Canada the certifier is TransFair Canada ([www.transfair.ca](http://www.transfair.ca)).

Basically, if the product does not have the TransFair logo or another approved logo, it isn't Fair Trade Certified.

The Cocoa Camino chocolate bar that Mr. Lingley wrote about in the article does meet the FLO criteria—it is Fair Trade Certified and has certified organic ingredients—and therefore displays the TransFair Logo.

Earth's General Store (EGS) has been a leader in introducing Fair Trade Certified and certified organic products into the Edmonton market before TransFair Canada existed. We are now Edmonton's first and only 100 per cent FTC coffee roaster. EGS offers what is probably the largest selection of FTC products probably in western Canada. We no longer carry Maya Gold or Endangered Species since these do not meet our standards.

Please—when you are writing about these kinds of issues to raise awareness don't give misleading information.

**MICHAEL KALMANOVITCH  
AND DEBORAH ROBB  
(EARTH'S GENERAL STORE)**

**BUSH: MORE VIGILANT THAN YOU  
THINK?**

Mr. Halliday ("Keeping the peace at any cost," *SEE #727*) writes "George Bush was famously presented with a

report, entitled 'Bin Laden Determined to Attack Inside the United States' weeks before 9/11. It was a summary of intelligence that had been gathered for several years prior to the attack, and was ignored."

Why does Mr. Halliday say it was ignored? Because 9/11 happened? In fact, the memo was not ignored. Unfortunately, it gave absolutely no clue about what was to happen on September 11. It made no mention of airplanes, or of airplanes being hijacked and used as cruise missiles. It made no mention of any attack on the World Trade Centre, the Pentagon, or the White House. I would encourage you to post the actual memo in your paper and ask your readers if they think the Bush administration should have been able to predict or prevent the 9/11 attacks based on what was in the memo.

Mr. Halliday is correct that it was a summary of old intelligence. There was nothing new in it, the memo did not provide any information that Bin Laden himself hadn't been preaching about for years. According to Mr. Halliday, Paperny claims that it was "just one more failure in the legion of intelligence failures that led to 9/11."

In fact, no person to date has been able to point to anything in the memo as evidence that there was some failure by the Bush administration to do something. The memo was a general summary of things that everyone already knew—that Bin Laden wanted to attack the U.S. on its soil. For years prior to 9/11, the U.S. government had contemplated a more likely scenario—a

dirty bomb.

Unfortunately, this myth about this useless memo continues to circulate. If there was anything like the proverbial "smoking gun" contained in the memo, believe me, it would have been reprinted in the media. In fact, the media rarely have they ever? prints the actual memo itself. Again, I ask you to print it in its entirety.

How could that memo have reasonably predicted what was about to happen on 9/11? What could any government have reasonably done if they had been given the memo, and would it have had any effect on the happening of 9/11?

**CAMERON SMART**

## TAXING LOGIC

Canadians are expected to rejoice because of new Conservative tax cuts. However, on reflection, is it fair that working Canadians receive a cut of one half of one percent on personal income tax while giant corporations receive a seven percent tax cut? Is it fair that the banks have refused to lower their obscene user fees and have been rewarded with a seven percent tax cut? Is it fair that the Incos and Essos of this country are receiving a seven percent tax cut without having any responsibility for meeting Kyoto targets?

Is it fair that court challenges, adult literacy classes, the Kelowna Accord, the Atlantic Accord, and public daycare have all been cut so that Telus and Wal-Mart and Shell can have a seven percent tax cut? Do the Conservatives think that Canadians will find one half of one percent fair?

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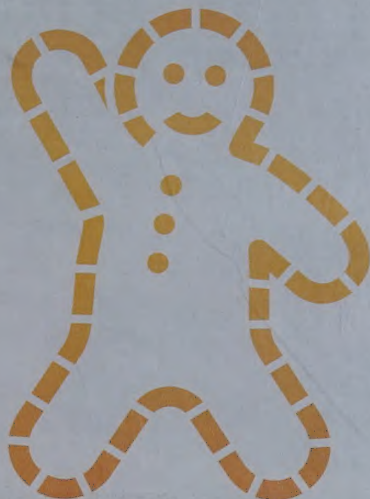
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**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 5, FT. McMURRAY** Prime Minister Stephen Harper arrives for closed-door discussions and a tour of the oilsands.

## TRANSIT RIDERS INCREASE

EDMONTON TRANSIT WAS IN A BRAGGING MOOD THIS WEEK when it put out a report on ridership numbers to city council.

Transit ridership for September increased 12 per cent over last year and annual ridership numbers increased over the past three years, with 2.6 per cent in 2005, 5.2 per cent in 2006 and was expected to increase by 7.5 per cent this year.

ETS presents programs like the university pass, employer subsidized passes, and the online store as reasons for the increases. While these programs—especially the U-Pass—are steps forward, population increases should also be factored into the equation. Edmonton grew by more than 120,000 people and the surrounding areas experienced huge jumps in population as well. The growing population gets blamed for much misery in the city, but there should be benefits—as in more efficient public transit.



## LONELIER THAN THE MAYTAG REPAIRMAN

ONE ONE! THAT'S HOW MANY PEOPLE THE CITY OF EDMONTON has inspecting building sites to see if homebuilders are adhering to their approved blueprints. And he only checks out a site if there's a complaint.

Why do we have only one? Well, having more than one would be more expensive, the director of the relevant agency told the *Edmonton Journal*. And it might look a little Big Brother-ish if inspectors went around snooping with a measuring tape.

Nevertheless, the city has no fiscal or ethical qualms about employing multiple bylaw inspectors. Or police. They're pricy. And nosy.

Speaking of pricy, how do we measure the price we pay when contractors, architects, and homebuilders know that all they have to do is to be very, very quiet when they're getting fancy with the meter stick?

## BY THE NUMBERS

Trips taken in Edmonton

Car	57 per cent
Car Passenger	20 per cent
Transit	9 per cent
Walk	11 per cent
Bike	1 per cent
School/work bus	1 per cent

Source: 2005 Edmonton Household Travel Survey

## DON'T TELL MEL

ENERGY MINISTER MEL KNIGHT DEFENDED HIMSELF AT THE opening session of legislature on Monday from NDP questions over why he didn't know that Alberta was not collecting all its royalties. (The provincial auditor general found early last month that the province failed to collect roughly \$3 billion in royalties over the last three years.) Knight said there was no requirement for the past energy ministers to fill him in.

In case anyone momentarily forgot, the Tories have ruled Alberta for the past 36 years. Not only was the last energy minister a Tory, so was the one before that. And the one before that, and so on until 1971. Consider also that the NDP had to use an "emergency" clause to get the royalty debate opened in the legislature at all this fall. The Tories had no plans to talk about it.

## HERE WE GO AGAIN

JERUS! YOU THOUGHT WE WERE JOKING ABOUT THE ZOMBIE threat? There are some talking points that just refuse to die.

A classic line arose from the dead this week as part of the campaign to protect our fragile oil companies. One of the least compelling arguments against hiking royalties says we can't trust government to take care of the extra dough... so the only reasonable alternative is to give it away to private interests.

Ahem. Anyhow, in developing this rationale the Canadian Taxpayers Federation used this classic line: "Alberta spent \$3.8 billion on healthcare in 1995-96, and it's going to spend \$12.2 billion this year—a 224 per cent increase in just over a decade."

Why compare with 1995-96? Did they really think we'd forget that 1996 came at the end of three years of Klein cuts to healthcare spending? Or that those cuts came after years when healthcare spending merely kept pace with inflation?

**"I FEEL DEMOCRACY IS IN TROUBLE IN ALBERTA."**

John Cross of the Pekisko Group, a rancher / landowner coalition, on Bill 46.

# white poppy



The Symbol You Are Not Allowed To Wear

BY ANGELA BRUNSCHOT | PHOTOS BY JASON SCOTT

Last November, Marie Chidley wore a red poppy and a white poppy. She wore the red poppy in memory of her father, a Second World War veteran. The white poppy represented her commitment to peace.

This year, the activist with the Edmonton Coalition against War and Racism won't be wearing a white poppy because they are no longer available in Edmonton—or even Canada.

Earth's General Store on Whyte Avenue sold the white poppies for a short time last year. The peace group Women in Black also made the white poppies available for one hour during a silent vigil in front of the Old Strathcona Market last November. Both the owner of Earth's General Store, Michael Kalmanovitch, and Patricia Hartnagel of the Women in Black were sent cease-and-desist orders from the Royal Canadian Legion, which holds a copyright on the poppy. After almost a year of legal wrangling, both Kalmanovitch and Hartnagel have agreed not to sell or distribute the white poppy, as neither had the financial resources to fight the case in court.

Chidley understands the controversy. Besides her WWII vet father, she also has family fighting in Afghanistan, and her nephew will return there for his second deployment in January. She respects veterans and soldiers, but on November 11 she also wants to show her commitment to peace.

"It just seems to me that no one wants to talk about the symbols of peace," Chidley says. "We always seem to be shut out and made to feel as if we are some kind of fringe thing."

The red poppy is a symbol of remem-

brance and was inspired by the description of the poppies that grew over the graves and battlefields of France in the poem "In Flanders Field" by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, a First World War medical officer. The symbol was adopted in 1921 and was made by veterans themselves until 1996. The poppy campaign currently raises \$14 million each year in Canada. The money goes directly into a trust fund that stays within the city in which it was raised and may only be used for helping veterans and their families and programs like seniors' housing, medical research, and community health services.

First World War and wanted a way to show their hope for peace and their commitment to finding alternatives to war. At the time, some women lost their jobs for wearing the white poppy.

## COPYRIGHT IN CANADA

But in present-day Canada the controversy played out very differently because the Legion holds a copyright on the poppy symbol.

"It's an abuse of the poppy in Canada as far as we are concerned," says Legion spokesperson Bob Butt, who added sarcastically, "Let's have a green poppy, a red poppy, a white poppy, a

society to be judgmental of others," Marselje says. "My duties are to defend the rights of Canadians with my life. If that includes the right to wear whatever symbol they want, then that is good enough for us soldiers."

## POPPY CONTROL

The case of the white poppy is not the first time the Legion has shown its displeasure over certain uses of the symbol.

"The white poppy campaign is a pacifist campaign. The Legion obviously wants to control that, but the Legion also tries to control the use of the red poppy in all sorts of ways," says Jack Granatstein, military historian and former head of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. When he placed a red poppy at the centre of the new museum's crest, the Legion spoke up, saying the museum should have asked permission first. Legion spokesperson Bob Butt says the Legion has intervened in hundreds of cases where the symbol or word "poppy" was used for profit or in a manner they deemed inappropriate. They've also asked the news website [bourque.org](http://bourque.org) to take down an image of a poppy, even though the site-owner Pierre Bourque intended it as a tribute.

"It was deemed an inappropriate use of the poppy because it's a commercial site and we have no control over those sites," says Butt. "All we can do is ask them to take it down."

Nor is the legion shy about stepping into areas where they don't hold a copyright. In 2006, the Legion fought the Canadian War Museum on the wording of a display about the bombings of German cities in the Second World War. The museum eventually capitulated to pressure and rewrote and extended the wording of the display.

**"No one wants to talk about the symbols of peace. We always seem to be shut out and made to feel as if we are some kind of fringe thing."**

—Marie Chidley, peace activist

Forbidden in Canada, the white poppy has a long history in England. The Peace Pledge Union currently sells white poppies through their website [www.ppu.org.uk](http://www.ppu.org.uk). Formed during the run-up to the Second World War in 1934, the PPU has provided support to conscientious objectors, organized protests to the Korean War, the Falklands war and the more recent wars in the Middle East. The group also provides education campaigns on the causes of war. The peace poppy was first created in the 1933 by the Women's Co-operative Guild as a symbol of peace to wear on Remembrance Day, and was later adopted by the PPU. The women involved in creating the white poppy had lost family and friends in the

blue poppy. Let's have multicoloured poppies and we will distribute them for whatever we believe in."

He stresses that in Canada we traditionally wear only the red poppy and only as a symbol of remembrance.

Others are not as bothered by the white poppy. When the controversy arose last year, Lou Marselje pinned an article about the white poppy to the bulletin board outside his office as a "point of interest." Although the retired captain and current spokesperson at Canadian Forces Base Edmonton doesn't wear the white poppy, nor has he seen anyone on the base wearing one, he doesn't object to it.

"As a soldier, I'm not put into Canadian





Peace activist Marie Chidley's father Stephen Chidley and his boyfriend friend served in the military during World War II. Photo by Jason Scott

#### Fast Facts

\*Earth's General Store will be selling white peace doves next year.

\*The white poppy for peace was created in Britain in 1933.



Granatstein says the Legion has been "proactive" in pushing their image, especially during wartime.

"It's important for the folks at home if you have people overseas," he says. "People want to believe that their sons and daughters are doing important and useful things. If they are being put in danger, that's necessary from the military's point of view. So it tries very hard to project an image of competence, efficiency, and good training. And to suggest that what it's doing is important and worthwhile."

Patricia Hartnagel, a Quaker and a member of Women in Black, says threatening her with a lawsuit didn't help their cause. "In a way, they really shot themselves in the foot," she says. "Nobody would have paid attention to us for our one hour in front of the Strathcona Farmers Market, but because of all of this, it went around the world."

Although she had a few nasty responses and one disturbing early-morning phone call at her home during which someone called her a friend of the Taliban, she's also received many international e-mails asking where others can purchase the white poppies. She has pledged to only wear the white poppy this year, even though she, like fellow peace activist Marie Chidley, understands the importance of remembrance that the red poppy invokes.

"Our message, and the message of the white poppy, is that it's not enough just to remember," she says. "Of course you remember and you revere the sacrifice of all the people that died in the wars, but you also have to be more proactive.... It's just a reminder to people that you need to wake up and do something and be more involved and engaged in what's going on in the world."

#### PEACE AND REMEMBRANCE

Remembrance Day itself has evolved quite a bit over its 88-year history. "It has had its ups and downs in popular support," says Granatstein. "Obviously, it's strong in times of war. I think the key thing is that in the last dozen years, Remembrance Day seems to have become much more popular, seems to have greater impact on the public."

He says this resurgence started with the 50th anniversary of D-Day and VE Day in the mid-1990s, when CBC did extensive coverage of the occasion and got veterans talking about their experiences. The opening of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 2000, the opening of the expanded war museum in 2005, the Veterans Affairs ad campaign "Canada Remembers," and the expansion of Remembrance Day into Remembrance Week also had an impact. "The result is the papers will be full of

coverage on Remembrance Day," Granatstein says. "This is something that simply would not have happened 15 years ago."

But at what point do these events become a glorification of war?

"I don't think it ever does," says Granatstein. "There's too many dead for that. There's no glorification in the great heaps of Canadian dead in the wars of the 20th Century. Where is the glory in that? No one for a minute thinks glory. No one thinks military prowess. This is about dead Canadians. I think you've missed the point."

But Granatstein's argument relies on the kind of emotional response that Hartnagel says deflects debate. It's the same kind of reasoning that's used when arguments erupt over public displays of the yellow ribbon. The slogan "Support Our Troops" doesn't seem appropriate, she says, because who doesn't

want Canadian citizens to live and come home to their families? Certainly, both Hartnagel and Chidley want the best for the individual soldiers. They question the war itself.

And Hartnagel says the actions of the legion have led to a chilling effect on dissent in Canada, and especially Edmonton because of the nearby CFB Edmonton army base. She says no one can get close to the issues because the emotional argument of "dead Canadians" stops any discussion in its tracks.

"Oftentimes it seems that it's the glorification of war that we engage in on Remembrance Day and not the process of democracy and diplomacy," says Chidley. "We should take a minute to think about peace."



Peace activist Marie Chidley's father-in-law George Clark Meggison served in the military during World War II. Photo by Jason Scott

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488-6622

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14822 Stony Plain Rd.  
443-3022

Edmonton City Centre  
10200 - 102 Ave.  
421-4540

**EAST**

Capilano Mall  
(outside entrance by Safeway)  
459-6880

Millwoods Main Street Mall  
6558 - 28 Ave. (by Tim Hortons)  
440-2812

6839 - 83 St. (Argyll Rd.)  
465-5271

**SOUTH**

6031 Gateway Blvd.  
438-2355

Southgate Centre  
434-5620

Southgate Centre  
439-0535

South Edmonton Common  
485-9812

3120 Parsons Rd.  
702-6001

Hub Mall  
9004 - 112 St.  
432-3108

**NORTH**

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456-9139

West Edmonton Mall Phase I  
(lower level near  
Galaxy Land entrance)  
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West Edmonton Mall Phase II  
(by skating rink)  
415-9855

West Edmonton Mall Phase III  
(by London Drugs)  
443-3040

West Edmonton Mall, Chinatown  
(next to T&T Supermarket)  
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10113 - 170 St.  
408-8917

Mayfield Common  
10608 - 170 St.  
489-2255

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986-0986

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Inglewood Town Centre  
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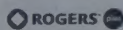
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The weekly

## VOTE

We sat through city council so you don't have to

## TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS (TUE, NOV 5)

## TRANSIT LAND

THE NEW CITY COUNCIL'S first meeting of the Transportation and Public Works committee got off to a roaring start.

Bob Boutilier, the new manager of transportation, kicked off the orientation session with an aggressive list of his priorities for the department. He said that the department eats up too much time on internal consultations and that he will work to get "shovels in the ground" faster. He says he's also focused on obtaining land for LRT and bus rapid transit routes decades before they are needed, as a cost-cutting measure. He's also looking to obtain or keep rights-of-way in order to keep costs down and avoid hassles for residents. A portion of the northeast LRT was built on the old CN right-of-way into

green room are both too small to make applying for designation from the Green Building Council fiscally responsible. Each application costs roughly \$200,000 to complete. I did promise that the buildings will follow sustainable building practices whenever possible. Henderson asked that in cases where it doesn't make sense to apply for certification, city staff detail for council the sustainable practices they are using.

## FAMILY FARE

NEW ETS DAY PASSES FOR FAMILIES could be available as soon as February, if city council approves.

Last summer ETS ran a pilot project that offered family passes for \$7.50 each that allowed two adults and four children 17 years and younger to travel all day on weekends. During the experiment, purchases of the passes went up 150 per cent. ETS manager Charlie Stolte deemed the project a success and recommended ETS adopt the pass.

Theresa Shea, a mother and transit rider, also urged the committee to

approve the pass, but with some additions. She preferred the Victoria pass, which allows travel on weekdays, but only covers children under 12.

Stolte argued that ETS would lose money if it offered the pass on more days. The transit department estimates that Victoria loses between \$500,000 and \$750,000 on the pass. During the pilot on weekend passes, ETS broke even.

"I'm always happy to get people on the bus, if you give us the money," he says.

In the end, the committee approved a "Victoria-style" pass that covers one adult and up to four children under 12 on any day. If city council approves it, the new family pass could be available by March 2008.

ANGELA BRUNSCHOT

Should ETS offer a day pass that covers one adult and four children?

Kim Krushell	yes
Ed Gibbons	yes
Bryan Anderson	yes
Ben Henderson	yes



## BUSING THE RUGRATS

A new ETS Family Pass could be available by March 2008

**"What the hell is going on? I'm alarmed that [a rapid transit route on 28th Avenue] wouldn't be a part of your plan. I'm at a loss."**

DAVE THIELE

downtown, so the idea isn't totally new.

Ward 5 councillor Dave Thiele wanted to know why Boutilier wouldn't plan rapid transit along the right-of-way on 28th Avenue in Millwoods before spending hundreds of millions of dollars on land elsewhere.

"What the hell is going on?" asked Thiele. "I'm alarmed that it wouldn't be a part of your plan.... I'm at a loss."

Although the city's long-range plan does include a rapid transit route into Millwoods, the transportation department has not decided on specific routes. Boutilier promised to look into the 28th Avenue option.

## GREEN BUILDINGS

DESPITE APPROVING A POLICY LAST session that all municipal buildings should be certified by the Canadian Green Building Council, the TFW committee agreed that two new municipal buildings would not be certified.

"I am concerned that we are so quickly leaving behind our commitments," said new Ward 4 councillor Ben Henderson.

Bill Burn, manager of the city's asset management department, says the Kennedale drainage building and the Louise McKinney Park



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THE CITY OF  
**Edmonton**

## Social programs outgunned

### New militarism fuels hunger for tax dollars

WITH OTTAWA EXPECTING A BUDGET surplus of more than \$14 billion this year, the debate is on in earnest: Should there be tax cuts... or tax cuts?

As federal surpluses have ballooned wildly in recent years—theoretically increasing our options as a country—in reality, most of the options have been quietly removed from the table.

A front-page headline in the *Globe and Mail* last week declared:

"Swelling surplus heightens tax cut hopes." Nowhere does the article mention the possibility that any of the swelling surplus could be invested in social programs such as health-

**LINDA MCQUAIG**  
COMMENT

almost all of Ottawa's new spending, Canada will spend \$19.4 billion on the military by 2010—an increase of \$3 billion a year over our 2007 military spending, and the highest level since World War II, notes Steven Staples, a defence analyst for the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

All this is the product of heavy lobbying by Washington and corporate and pro-military groups in Canada, such as the influential Cal-

gary-based Council for Canadian Security in the 21st Century, whose founders include well-heeled members of the Canadian elite like Fredrik S. Eaton and Sonja Bata.

While clearly pleased with Ottawa's higher military spending, the pro-military set sees these extra billions as just a prelude to still bigger military budgets. For instance, another Calgary-based pressure group, the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute, is advocating pushing our military spending to 1.5 or 1.6 per cent of GDP, which would divert an additional \$6 billion a year or so to the military.

These groups argue Canada spends less on its military than our NATO allies—a conclusion they reach by measuring military spending as a percentage of GDP. Using this measure, our military spending looks smaller than that of Latvia or Slovenia or Estonia. But that's only because Canada has a much bigger GDP than any of these tiny NATO countries. If we measure actual dollars spent, Canada spends vastly more—well over 10 times more—than these three little nations combined. In fact, Canada is now the sixth largest military spender in NATO, notes Staples.

Canada's increased military spending is of course funding our combat mission in Afghanistan—a mission that a majority of Canadians oppose but that the Harper government is keen to continue. On a CTV broadcast last April, then defence minister Gordon O'Connor explained why Ottawa needed 120 new tanks: "Afghanistan and these types of engagements are the future for 10, 15 years."

The Harper government has managed to cultivate a media image as moderate and well within the Canadian mainstream. But its spending priorities tell another story. While it has lavished money on the military, it has been miserly when it comes to social needs, even cancelling the fledgling national child-care program.

But it's hard to imagine that, if Canadians really understood the choices, they'd favour spending an extra \$3 billion a year on the mili-

tary—rather than on their own children.

Originally published in  
The Toronto Star

**Canada will spend \$19.4 billion on the military by 2010—an increase of \$3 billion a year over our 2007 military spending.**

care and education despite the fact that polls have consistently shown Canadians strongly favour this sort of social investment over tax cuts.

While the Harper government avoids putting surplus funds into social programs, it has found a new favourite place to direct our surplus tax dollars: the military.

One of the most dramatic changes—and one that has received surprisingly little attention in public debate—is the way Canada's military has been on the receiving end of

gary-based Council for Canadian Security in the 21st Century, whose founders include well-heeled members of the Canadian elite like Fredrik S. Eaton and Sonja Bata.

While clearly pleased with Ottawa's higher military spending, the pro-military set sees these extra billions as just a prelude to still bigger military budgets. For instance, another Calgary-based pressure group, the Canadian Defence and Foreign Affairs Institute, is advocating pushing our military spending

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**YOU NEVER KNOW. I'M THE HETERO HAVING A LESBIAN FUNG, REMEMBER?**

**FORGET LABELS. SEXUALITY IS A FLUID THING.**

**I TRY, BUT CINDY NEVER LETS ME FORGET SHE'S A CELEBRITY.**

**CELEBRITY? SHE'S HARDLY A KATE MOSS IS SHE?**

**SHE IS TO HER FANS. ONE RIVAL WOULD BE TOUGH ENOUGH. WITH 20,000 I NEED, LIKE, AIR COVER.**

**SO, ARE WE TALKIN' LOVE?**

**NO LABEL, REMEMBER? WHATEVER IT IS, IT'S FUN WHILE IT'S LASTING!**

**NOW YOU'RE MAKING ME JEALOUS?**

**C'MON, MAX! YOU MUST BE GETTING SOME ON THIS VISIT.**

**OH SURE. BUT AFTER A DECADE, SEX IS 5% INSPIRATION AND 95% PERSPIRATION.**

**OK, VOICE OF EXPERIENCE: HOW DO I HANDLE 20,000 FUNDAMENTALIST CELEBRITY WORSHIPPERS?**

**GENTLY. YOU DON'T WANNA START A CLASH OF CIVILIZATIONS.**

**CULTURAL SENSITIVITY WINS HEARTS AND MINDS.**

**OK. I GUESS I'LL START WEARING LIP GLOSS.**



# In the land of the rising libido

Go to Japan and you'll see the future of sex today

SO, JAPAN. A MONTH OF DELICIOUS mayhem in a foreign land of friendly fascism. "And so they put a rifle in my hands..."

First off, as I've been spuzzing about it is a commercial utopia, *Brave New World* style. Perfect, seen from the top floors. It's the least boring place on planet Earth. Period. The fact that you can actually buy a periodic-certified menstruation in a plastic-sealed soup dish—pretty much proves it.

But I'm paid to criticize and suggest, so let's be fair. Japan, as a whole, is seriously, seriously fucked up—in a shell more dazzling than poor Orange-Alert America exists, but nonetheless terribly ill. It's a country of hundreds of millions where the shittiest urges of the eternal 14-year-old boy have ruled for decades, and I'm not just talking about the relatively safe alien-tentacle-rape manga available at every train stop to any kid with 600 yen.

The "free speech" in me cheers on this liberation; common sense guts me otherwise, like when I think of 11-year-olds probing the Internet's pink texture. As I sat among the snow monkeys, all hairy with a sun-fired red face myself, I felt Japan's giggling lack of self-awareness full-on as they snapped endless photos, laughing so hard at their pattern recognition. At the big "monkey" before them. Fair enough.

## HIDDEN NINJA FISH GRIWKOWSKY

But let us start with their ubiquitous, terrifying, and juvenile sexual obsession with pornography, which is also instinctively ineluctable, extending to a government-ok'd, Yakuza-run Philippina/Korean sex trade, frequented by the worst JET-while-scam ever. Another thing you also need to remember is that the depiction of a vagina is totally illegal there, a fact you can put on the same shelf as birth control's long struggle and Viagra's instant acceptance.

I met up with this selective censorship ten years ago at the border, smuggling *Playboys* from Hong Kong for my uncle, the customs guards having stripped me naked then pointing at the glorious folds of magazine flesh in front of us and explaining that they were illegal. I asked them, staring at the forbidden genitals, how then they had babies... and thank fucking God they laughed.

But what this means is that, in breathlessly endless comic books, videos and even action figures, what you get is a bunch of spread-legged Sailor Moons with a nubby front-bump—no details. Like porn for children, which is what it is.

To pull this back to the positive, I have to finish by talking about the sexual objectification of men. It may seem like a cop-out, but I was honestly relieved to witness the arrival of man-on-man manga which is consumed not by male homosexuals but young girls getting off on (very) exaggerated penises poking around other men with head-landed-birds passing off as hair. The look matches the "human menu" photos of the emerging "Host bars" where guys light your smokes and laugh at your jokes like paid women have done for so long.

Given our own culture, which so accepts girl-on-girl "hot lesbian" action to the point of appearing in mainstream country videos, it was refreshing to reph some gender guilt. Basically, all those late-'80s Budweiser posters of six bikini models lying on top of each other have begun to be reventaged by cartoon dudes slurping each others' noodles for the pleasure of women only. Two wrongs making a right? Maybe not. But know this: it'll be here soon, too.

That's the way it always goes with Japan: portents. Because of a conscious estrangement from globalized culture on their part, it takes their extremes longer to usurp our habits. But without fail, they always do. Therefore, to the ladies, I hope you enjoy the upcoming ride. It's been long enough coming.



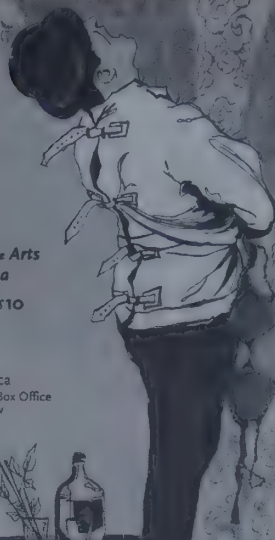
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# in print

## Dirty young man

### Christian McPherson goes for the throat

SIX WAYS TO SUNDAY  
By Christian McPherson  
Nightwood Editions. 216 pp. \$19.95

WHEN I READ THAT AUTHOR Christian McPherson had a degree in philosophy, I braced myself for his short story collection *Six Ways to Sunday* to contain some metaphysical epiphanies—or least a couple of grad students offering Nietzschean asides.

Well, there's none of that. *Six Ways to Sunday* rarely stops to muse or analyze. McPherson goes straight for the throat.

In his first story, "The Plastic Garden," the reclusive Rumford retires early from his job building architectural models and, still living in his childhood home, dedicates Zoodle-fueled, solitary days to constructing replicas of St. Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. Although he has always found his fellow humans to be dull and impenetrable compared to model-building, Rumford meets the neighbouring Jackson family and makes an unprecedented connection, a bond cemented by the miniature animals his young neighbour Haley collects for her garden.

We've all known people like Rumford (or at least I have)—a brilliant, painfully childlike genius who finds pleasure in mathematical order but can't grasp social nuances. When Rumford enters the realm of human affection, we can see that his old wounds are reopening, that his unguarded heart will be easily broken. The story's disarming conclusion is a punch to the gut that rings almost too true to bear. You might be tempted to put the book aside for awhile, not ready to tackle another tale so gut-wrenching, so soon.

But this first story stands apart from the others, which are neither as distressing nor as well-realized. McPherson populates the rest of his book with drug dealers and strippers, pool sharks and gambling addicts, all of them wasting their young lives in Ottawa's scuzziest bars and cockroachiest apartment buildings.

As these down-and-out antiheroes steal and cheat, scream and yell and lose their virginity, *Six Ways to Sunday* takes us for a fast and furious ride, and one that's sad and dirty and mesmerizing, much like McPherson's toothless old woman in

# Sunday

stories

the "ratty fur coat with a dead fox around the collar," who chuckles, uncomprehending, from the shadows of Lucifer's Tavern.

You can taste the cigarette smoke and the stale beer; you can smell The Pineapple Thai Village's unhygienic kitchen, feel the grease as it settles into your acne-ridden skin.

Unfortunately, McPherson struggles, usually in vain, to develop his characters beyond caricature. He builds each fraught situation to an explosive climax and then lacks on a disappointing ending—tangential, shallow, or in some cases, strangely resembling a "lesson" of the *After-school Special* variety.

"Stargazing" reads a bit like a *Trailer Park Boys* episode, with the criminal father, more dimwitted than menacing, steering his good-hearted son toward a life of crime—but the tale lacks humour and levity. The cosmos conspire, through a series of coincidences, to unite lovers and snacks in "Childdog Love," and "Lucky Break" depicts a housewife pulled into the dreaded VLT vortex. "Clown Face" attempts some mild profundity when its thirty-something raver falls for a clown in full makeup before seeing her face. In the final story, "Killer Dope," McPherson gets the Tarantino-esque thoughtless violence and gore bang-on but misses any irony or emotional resonance that would make the story memorable and meaningful rather than simply grotesque.

But McPherson's writing is never boring; say what you will, but if you start this book you're unlikely to put it down until you've read every word.

This is a book to devour (and to follow with a hot shower) and McPherson is a writer to watch. As he develops stronger characters and follows through to stronger endings, his stories could all be as poignant and nauseatingly real as his best.

NAOMI LEWIS

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## Grading the Wu-Tang

From Ghostface to ODB, we rank the Clan's solo careers

### A SOLID B STUDENT

Method Man oiled his studies in the Wu-Tang Academy



### METHOD MAN

w/ Street Life, Mathematics, Cilvaringz and more. Sat, Nov 10. Edmonton Event Centre (WEM). Tickets available through Ticketmaster.

ASKING A RAP FAN TO NAME THEIR favourite member of the Wu-Tang Clan is like asking your parents who their favourite Beatie is. Certain names are bound to crop up more than others, but there's no clear consensus—even the more, shall we say, "marginal" members of each group have their devoted fans.

Method Man is not one of these marginal members. In fact, he's probably the most famous clansman to have emerged from the New York rap ninesome (excluding their innumerable associates). None of his Wu

brethren can claim to have starred in a cult-classic stoner comedy (*How High*) or appeared in his own sitcom (the failed *Method & Red*, along with his sometime partner-in-crime Redman).

Born Clifford Smith, Method Man's entrance into the music world came on the Wu-Tang Clan's influential debut, 1993's *Enter the Wu-Tang (36 Chambers)*. Along with GZA, he was the only one of two members to get a solo track on that album. "Method Man" stood in stark contrast to the grimy, depressing aesthetic that prevailed on the rest of the album, relying instead on Method Man's caustic sense of humour and his unique delivery, characterized by a deceptively lazy

### None of his Wu brethren can claim to have starred in a cult-classic stoner comedy or his own sitcom.

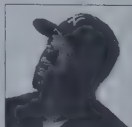
flow and a commanding baritone. His solo career has spawned four solo albums, three of which—his *Tical* series—have gone platinum, and one album with Redman, the

party record *Blackout!* Method's 1996 collaboration with R&B chanteuse Mary J. Blige, "I'll Be There For You/You're All I Need to Get By," even earned him a Grammy for Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group.

For his solo career, Method Man earns a respectable B. But what about the other members of the Clan? *SEE* takes a look at five other Wu alumni and ranks their solo careers.

### GHOSTFACE KILLAH

Method Man might be the one Wu-Tang member even your mom could identify, but Ghostface Killah is the one all the in-the-know hipsters are name-dropping these days. Ghostface impressed but never stole the spotlight early on; as Ghostface became more comfortable being Ghostface, his records only continued to improve—2004's *The Pretty Tony* Album and 2006's *Fishscale* are hip-hop landmarks. A



### RAEKWON

Raekwon deserves a gold star for *Only Built 4 Cuban Linx...*, his classic 1995 debut. The most influential mafioso rap album of all time, it's also arguably the best solo Wu release. Unfortunately, his other two solo records are markedly mediocre. Average it all out and he gets a B-



### RZA

Even if his participation in the Gravediggaz albums doesn't count

towards his solo career, the de facto leader of the Wu-Tang has had a prosperous musical career on his own, including two experimental albums as his hedonistic alter ego Bobby Digital. He also wrote the scores for *Ghost Dog* and the *Kill Bill* movies and can currently be seen acting alongside Russell Crowe in Ridley Scott's *American Gangster*. B+



### CAPPADONNA

Last seen homeless and driving cabs in Baltimore, Underrated for his sparse contributions to the Wu-Tang albums, his solo career never saw him rise above his third-tier status in the Clan, although his guest appearances on the Ghostface songs "Iron Maiden" and "Winter Warz" (from *Ironman*) remain slept-on even today. C-



### OL' DIRTY BASTARD

The absurdist of the group, the late Ol' Dirty Bastard was unusual and eccentric—and that's putting it nicely. With his brand of half-sung, half-rapped MCing, he slurred his way into the hearts of rap fans everywhere. His solo career was equally colourful, albeit marred by erratic personal behaviour, including stints in prison. Judd Apatow's *Knocked Up* memorably employed his song "Shimmy Shimmy Ya" during its opening credits, which only highlights ODB's influence on even the whitest aspects of pop culture. With such offbeat alter egos as Big Baby Jesus and Peanut the Kidnapper to his credit, the solo career of ODB seems him... well... let's just give him a WTF.

RENATO PAGNANI



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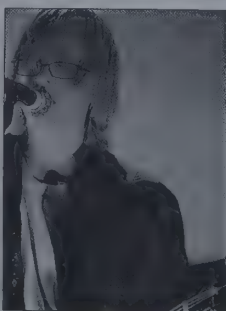
### DROPKICK MURPHYS

\* Fri, Nov 9, Edmonton Event Centre (WEM) The Murphys are just the latest (and most well-known) standard-bearers of a long, hard-core tradition of Boston punk that places a heavy emphasis on regional pride, the ability to consume copious amounts of alcohol, and audience participation in anthemic, Sham-69/early-Clash singalongs. As free of twee as you're going to get in these indie-addled times.



### MEM SHANNON AND THE MEMBERSHIP

\* Thu-Sun, Nov 8-11, Blues on Whyte (Commercial Hotel) The New Orleans-born former cabdriver (hence the title of his 1995 debut, *Cab Driver's Blues*) wraps up his weeklong stint at the Commie with a quartet of shows that'll traverse the realms of funk, soul, and rock as set to the Membership's steady grounding of straight-up old-school blues.



### TIM GILBERTSON

\* Sun, Nov 11, The Pawn Shop (above Bar Wild) It's been a good month for local troubadour Gilbertson, who's been touring the nation while dominating the local airwaves as Sonic's "Band of the Month." His official homecoming show includes supporting per-



formances courtesy of fellow Edmonton posters Hot Panda and Winnipeg's Boots.

### RIVER CITY ROCK OUT

\* Sun, Nov 11, The Victory Lounge Yee-haw. It's time again for Canadian Finals Rodeo, and that in turn has inspired the River

City Roundup, a series of citywide events designed to capitalize on all things Western, including the Roundup-associated Rock Out, featuring the city's most accomplished collectors of vintage cowboy shirts, The Unicorns, and their friends 7 and 7. All proceeds from the show go to charity.

# Home is where the dirt is

Pride Tiger is proud of their rain-soaked roots

## PRIDE TIGER

w/ Long Way Down and Hollerado Sat, Nov 10, Starlite Room (10030-102 St) Info: 428-7827

IT'S A BIT OF AN OVERSIMPLIFICATION, but there definitely seems to be a musical demarcation line running through the middle of the country, with an overabundance of wistfully baroque pop ensembles in the east and a grittier strain of players in the west.

Pride Tiger's Matt Wood would agree with that statement, anyway. The drummer/vocalist's band is practically the epitome of the bad-boy hard-rock boogie revival that has more of a foothold in their hometown of Vancouver than any points east. "There is something here," he concurs. "There are a lot of good rock bands in Vancouver. It's a good mix of the city and the country, you know? Pretty blue-collar. There's lots of dirtbags hanging around out here, but they're really talented dirtbags."

But if things keep going as they are, Pride Tiger could very well find themselves drifting further and further away from the working-class milieu from which they sprung, simply by virtue of their being some of the most popular dirtbags currently making a racket.

"It's been nothing but up, man," says Wood of the group's move to a major label, EMI, and FM radio's subsequent embrace of their Thin



Lizzy-inspired rumblings, particularly those on their latest release, the aptly titled *The Lucky Ones*. "It's pretty amazing that people are coming out to shows. We just started off really humble—we just got together

and started playing because we loved that kind of thing. But it's been a crazy two years."

Although they've all but abandoned their metal roots (the band evolved out of the remains of Three Inches of Blood), Wood can't contain his enthusiasm over having worked with producer Matt Hyde on *The Lucky Ones*. After all, Hyde's most famous previous client is Slayer—and as every rocker knows, even the most tenuous of connections to the thrash legends immediately ups your cool factor.

"I know, man, I know," laughs Wood. "[Working with Hyde] was a great experience. It was in L.A. and the dude was totally on point with

**"Coming home was great. I seriously went out and took a walk in the pissing rain and was into it."**

MATT WOOD, DRUMMER/SINGER

what we were into, and basically got into it and became the fifth member and worked his ass off on it. He's an incredibly talented guy. It was a fucking awesome experience."

Not to mention that having the opportunity to live in the heart of the global entertainment industry for two months held some sway with the Canuck quartet—to a degree.

"It's kind of weird, man," Wood muses. "There's a lot of fake shit, fake people running around. Exactly what you'd think. But for every person like that, there's a genuine [one] too."

Although Wood says their time in the California sun was a welcome respite from the gray climes of home, and that they thankfully missed a "gnarly," rain-soaked fall last year while recording *The Lucky Ones*, they don't plan on upsetting the balance of Western Canada's rock dominance by relocating to a more glamorous locale anytime soon.

"Coming home was great. I was stoked to get back. I seriously went out and took a walk in the pissing rain and was into it. I was the only guy walking around in a good mood."

ZOLTAN VARADI

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# Get down, Moses

Winnipeg funktronic outfit have a "Rockit" in their pocket



**MOSES MAYES**  
w/ Girl Nobody, Fri, Nov 9, Velvet Underground  
(10030-102 St.) Info: 428-7827

**HOW FITTING.** AS KEYBOARDIST Nathan Reimer of Winnipeg's Moses Mayes gets on his cellphone while his band makes its way from Canmore to Calgary, a barely decipherable chiming can be heard on his end of the line.

"Are you close to an ice cream truck?" I asked.

"No," he laughs. "We're listening to Herbie Hancock."

Hancock, of course, particularly with his breakthrough track "Rockit," could be credited with single-handedly birthing the now-omnipresent hybridization of jazz and electronic music, which includes Moses Mayes among its adherents. Turns out the band even got to share a stage and meet their hero in Saskatoon a few years ago.

"He did a perfect imitation of our saxophone player and basically said he thought it was great," Reimer recalls. "Nothing too specific, but that's fine. In terms of the music that we pull a lot of our inspiration from, Herbie Hancock is right at the top of that list."

When the band, initially an eight-piece, first got together, their sound was largely shaped by their then-drummer's obsession with dance music and the other musicians' jam-based approach to jazz and funk. "What we ended up with was a combination of players who were into a lot of the [jazz] fusion stuff and [our drummer] just knowing that house beat through and through," Reimer says. "I have yet to meet anyone who knows the finer points of a house beat more than he does."

It proved to be a winning combo, and soon Moses Mayes was spreading the groove all across Canada, releasing two long-players and an EP and grabbing support slots not only with Hancock but the late James Brown as well. Then, during the period preceding the recording of their third album proper, *Second Ring*, the band went through something of a transition period. Members started getting older and pursuing diverging career paths, leaving the trio of Reimer, turntablist Grant

Paley, and guitarist Mark Penner to deal with the band full-time, hiring out musicians to fill the roster on an as-needed basis.

"It's tricky, actually," Reimer says. "A lot of our ability to tour or not tour comes from whether or not we can find the musicians. It took a long time, close to deadline, on this one just to find a drummer. Our saxophone player has just recently moved out to Toronto, but we really like and want him so we had to fly him back, and our drummer, in fact, lives in Canmore. We actually have to pull from several different cities across Canada in order to make any sort of tour happen."

As such, the live Moses Mayes experience very much depends on whoever they have on tour with them—and with three drummers with varying backgrounds to choose from, the band's sound changes wildly from incarnation to incarnation. "One summer," Reimer says, "because of the drummer and the horn player we had, we were able to

do more of the fusion-y type stuff, whereas some tours, when we've got our original drummer, we focus more on that housier side of things."

However, Reimer says the revolving door of players has been educational, at least for those on the inside, with the core lineup learning and adjusting to new techniques the hired help brings to the table (or more accurately, to the touring van). Those long stretches on the road, he says, are often used to discuss and fine-tune their sound.

Which leaves me guiltily wondering if I've interrupted just such a session.

"No, that was just mellow, chill-out time," Reimer assures me. "But it's not uncommon for that to happen, to be listening to something and pretty soon you're discussing backing up solos and how to come up, say, behind a saxophone solo and make that more effective. It's always about trying to push things to make our music as good as possible."

ZOLTAN VARADI

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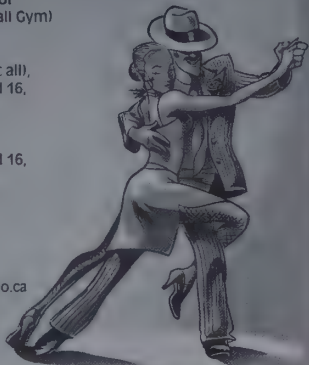
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## music

# Life in the Balance

Presiding over the dancefloor, Lee Burridge is a remorseless Tyrant

#### LEE BURRIDGE

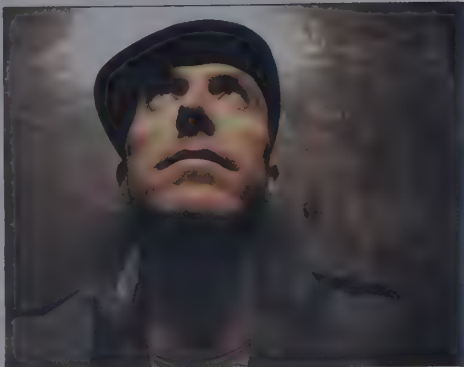
w/ Damian Lazarus. Thu, Nov 8, Pawn Shop  
(10549-82 Ave). Info: 893-9400

A FEW YEARS AGO, I CAUGHT UP WITH DJ Lee Burridge after his gig at the now titty-up Taipei club and hedonistic den of iniquity TeXound. The gay bar was one of very few clubs in the Taiwanese capital to play anything approaching underground dance music (back then, anyway), and Burridge was a favourite of TeXound's sweaty, shirtless masses.

Outside of the bar at sunup, a giddy Burridge entertained onlookers by fitting the entire wide end of a standard pint glass in his mouth. (For kicks, try doing it yourself just to see how hard the feat actually is.) Obviously, it was very funny. It also happens to be the only thing I remember about that particular show—draw your own conclusions as to why. Over the phone, Burridge laughs, saying not only does he remember the night but he can sort of empathize too.

"That's sort of what I've been saying to people about CD 2 of my new (three-disc) *Balance* mix set," Burridge says. "It represents the part of the night when you can't really remember what happened, but you know you had a good time. Maybe that whole night in Taipei was CD 2."

Burridge is joking, of course. In fact, he says the new *Balance* CD set is probably the most representative



#### THAT MOUTH DOESN'T SEEM BIG ENOUGH

...but Lee Burridge can still fit a pint glass into it

mix of electronic music he's done yet. Widely regarded as a tech-house DJ, his style could accommodate a potpourri of adjectives: "futuristic," "groovy," "deep," "minimal," "eclectic" and just plain "weird." Indeed, *Balance* is hot stuff for dark rooms.

"It's an idea I've had for a long time," he continues. "I find all that music really beautiful and nice to listen to. But I always felt the need to put out something that is more peak-time dancefloor stuff. I wanted to make a mix that you could put on before you went out or when you came home. And if you turn it up, it's still very danceable."

To his way of thinking, the *Balance* mixes are sets that most closely resemble his work in Tyrant—Tyrant being a clubbing concept Burridge launched with DJs Sasha and Craig Richards in the late '90s, though in the end it would be Burridge and Richards who ran with the idea. And the idea was a simple one: just playing good music. The Tyrant sound encompasses a blend of house, breaks and techno. The first

Tyrant mix set is one of the best-reviewed DJ mix albums of the last decade. Accordingly, Burridge says fans can count on hearing another Tyrant mix in the near future. Same goes for releases on his label, Almost Anonymous.

While Tyrant might have launched Burridge's name worldwide, Burridge's skills, his dedication to playing, and his ever-growing vinyl collection have kept him booked solid ever since. (His collection contains a whopping 30,000-plus records.) He's equally famous for his willingness to support charities like NextAid and his love of a good party or even messier afterparty. It can be tiring, he admits, but it never gets tiresome.

"If it ever does, I guess I'll stop," he says. "But I've never felt like that. It's fantastic being a DJ and getting paid to play the music I love. If there was no more money in it, I'd still do it even if I was doing something else. I still get the same buzz I did when I first started—and that was 24 years ago."

YURI WUENSCHE

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# Bryce Bryce baby

Former hobbit Bryce Kulak returns to his roots as a cabaret crooner

**BRYCE KULAK**  
w/ Amy Seeley, Thu, Nov 15 Transalta Arts  
Barns, Tickets: 409-1910  
tickets.fringeatre.ca

TWO YEARS AGO, LIKE SO MANY musicians before him, singer/songwriter Bryce Kulak left Edmonton to make the trek out to Canada's music mecca (also known as Toronto). But unlike those displaced bands seeking riches at the end of a busy, overcrowded rainbow, Kulak did so for a reason other than to "get big."

"I'd like to think that, as a young male piano player, there's not a lot of other people doing what I'm doing here in Canada."

BRYCE KULAK



**NO LONG DISTANCE CHARGES**  
Bryce Kulak pays Edmonton a call on a Tin Can Telephone

has suffered for a number of years from lack of original material. Some people in the jazz cabaret side of things end up singing the same standard Gershwin, Irving Berlin, or Rodgers and Hammerstein songs all the time because it's a semi-blank canvas where people can be within their own artistic sensibilities.

"But then," he continues, "there's the other side of cabaret that involves people covering songs from the musical theatre repertoire. Obviously, there's a lot of crossover between those two camps, but so far I don't really fit into either. I'm kind of creating new music in that same vein with a more modern and Canadian twist to things."

One of the most telling songs on

the album is the title track, which Kulak describes as an honest, raw love song. Really, though, it's a lost love song about the invisible connection you can have with someone you've loved or had a close relationship with and are separated from. You wonder if that person, on the other side of the globe, is thinking about you while you're thinking of them.

"I love painting pictures in people's minds," Kulak says excitedly. "Some people have said to me that they saw an entire movie when I'm singing a song. That's really cool to me—being able to open people's brains and put movies in there while I'm playing."

AMANDA ASH

so to speak.

"I was a part of the world premiere of the *Lord of the Rings* musical, which is now running in London's West End," Kulak says. "I was cast as a hobbit so I spent almost a year as a hobbit, playing the role of Pippin. It was incredibly, incredibly hard. It was grueling. When I finished the show last September, I was the skinniest I've ever been in my entire life. I had been running and sweating for an entire year. It was like being in boot camp."

The classical jazz pianist is proud of his involvement in one of the most elaborate stage productions ever mounted outside Broadway, but is quick to admit he's happy to sit in front of the piano once again. The premiere end of *Lord of the Rings* in September 2006 may not have gladdened the hearts of investors, but it did give Kulak the time to record his first full-length album, *Tin Can Telephone*. In contrast to the grandiose scale of *Lord of the Rings*, with its \$30 million budget, *Tin Can Telephone* evinces a childlike curiosity and the nostalgia for olden-day cabaret performances (think Frank Sinatra, or Norah Jones with a bit more spunk).

Kulak grew up onstage, acting in theatrical productions and performing classical piano, so the whimsical pop of *Tin Can Telephone* came naturally to him. "My music is very dramatic and it's very much about storytelling," Kulak says. "It's very character-driven, image-driven, and there are lots of fantastical images and whimsical turns of sway. I like the sound of language, the way words interact and rhymes and jokes arise out of visuals and double entendres. In that way, my music relates a lot to theatre."

Cabaret music sounds like a blast from the past: it seems especially odd that it's being reinvigorated by such a young musician, but Kulak thinks the genre is the perfect fit for his talents. "I would like to think that as a young male piano player, there's not a lot of other people doing what I'm doing here in Canada," Kulak says. "The cabaret scene

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## music



## Sweet-smelling gangster

Jay-Z's got 99 problems, but the stench ain't one

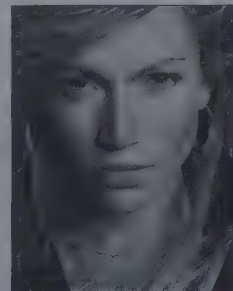
JUST WHEN HE WAS GETTING A LITTLE BIT of street cred back with all those rave reviews of *American Gangster*, which many are calling the best thing he's done since his debut, Jay-Z has taken another giant leap away from the hard-knock life and signed a deal with cosmetics giant Elizabeth Arden to market perfumes and skin care products through Jigga's Rocawear clothing line. Hopefully he'll take his collaboration with Lil' Wayne on the *Gangster* track "Hello Brooklyn 2.0" one step further and create a nice Wisp o' Weezy aftershave.

### MUCH ADO ABOUT... SOMETHING?

A recent study commissioned by the federal government and conducted by professors at the University of Western Ontario states that there is no conclusive proof that illegal filesharing and the decline of CD sales are in anyway related. The report also determines that there also isn't any concrete evidence that people who download music do so in order to preview tracks for a later purchase, as is so often claimed by guilty participants. If anything the exercise demonstrates that federal investigations are adept as ever at when it comes to proving absolutely nothing.

### BRAVE, INDEED

Jennifer Lopez has jumped on the USB band-



### FLASHDANCER

J.Lo enters the USB business

## ZOLTAN VARADI'S EYE ON MUSIC

wagon, issuing a limited edition of her new album *Brave* on one of the digi-sticks. In an inspired stroke of conceptual marketing, the diva chose a wooden flash drive to match her performance. Seriously, though, should you choose to purchase the album in its African Mahogany encasing, it'll only set you back \$70. Hello? Anyone still there?

### AGE-OLD QUESTION

"Is the reluctance to say, 'Okay, I like some Adult Alternative music,' owing to some atavistic fear that we are approving music that our parents might also approve of? If so, how moronic is that?"

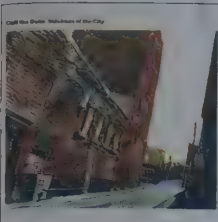
—Canadian music writer Karl Wilson on the latest blog debate over the mainstreaming of "indie." (Apparently Feist and The National aren't sloppy enough for some of the kids.) Read more at [zollus.com](http://zollus.com)

### PROMOTION IN MOTION

Looking to get your name in the paper? Well, before you e-mail us, why not get a few tips from the pros first? The Uptown Folk Club is presenting a seminar titled simply enough "Music Promotion," which will give you the lowdown on spreading the good word about yourself, whether you're plugging a band, an event, or club. Local shaker of music-makers Kirby will be on hand to tell you all the secrets of a successful poster quest. The fun goes down this Saturday, November 10, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Norwood Legion (11150-82 St). Tickets are available at the door, and cost \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.



# cd reviews



**CUFF THE DUKE**  
*Sidelines of the City*  
(Hardwood Records)  
★★★★☆

CUFF THE DUKE HAVEN'T CHANGED MUCH since their eponymous last album came out in 2005, but *Sidelines of the City* shows that this is hardly a bad thing: they've just focused and developed their songwriting even further. The melodies here are stronger, the instrumentation's tighter, and the band seems more observant of the world at large—although they don't quite like what they see.

Opener "If I Live or If I Die" has lead singer Wayne Petti demanding "I need some proof" from the Lord, backed by a ragged country march of drums and guitar. It's a rattling start to the album, and establishes an unsettled tone that prevails through the political "The Ballad of the Tired Old Man" and the touring lament "Long Road." The mood

picks up considerably with the warm vocal reflections of "Remember the Good Times," but even that's a land look back at happier times.

*Sidelines of the City* is a more-than-respectable addition to Cuff the Duke's catalogue. But one has to wonder why they couldn't have added it with a smile.

DAVID REIS



**THE PUPPINI SISTERS**  
*The Rise & Fall of Ruby Woo*  
(Universal)  
★★★★☆

WHAT WOULD BEYONCÉ'S "CRAZY IN LOVE" sound like if The Andrews Sisters had performed it instead? It's a question nobody ever thought to ask until The Puppini Sisters provided the answer: not that great, actually.

The Puppini's schtick recalls Nouvelle Vague, the French band famous for their cool, cocktail-party versions of '80s hits like

"I Meli With You." But everything about *The Rise & Fall of Ruby Woo* seems just a tad on the precious side: from the toy piano solos to the photos in the CD booklet showing the girls having a pillow fight in retro lingerie.

The musicianship on the album is solid—The Puppini are not actually sisters, but their three-part harmonies are so closely attuned that you'd swear they grew up under the same roof. And there are some surprisingly strong original compositions thrown among the campy covers of "Walk Like an Egyptian" ("I Can't Believe I'm Not a Millionaire"), a witty, languid cabaret tune in the vein of Heart of Saturday Night-era Tom Waits, a particularly amusing.

But the cabaret circuit is probably where The Puppini belong. It can be fun to hear a novelty cover like "Crazy in Love" in a live setting, but it's nothing that you'll want to return to over and over again on a CD.

PAUL MATWYCHUK

**LIGHTSPEED CHAMPION**  
*Galaxy of the Lost* (EP)  
(Domino)  
★★★★☆

EX-TEST ICICLE DEVONTE HYNES HAS wandered far afield from that band's post-rock musings, and set himself squarely in likeable alt-pop territory with this five-song sampler in advance of his upcoming full-length debut. *Falling Off the Lavender Bridge*. With strummed acoustic guitars, soft vocals and lyrics taken wholesale from the Dear Diary School of Rock Poetry, the title track approximates Evan Dando circa "If a



**RYAN ADAMS & THE CARDINALS**  
*Follow the Lights* (EP)  
(Lost Highway)  
★★★★☆

Shame About Ray"—only with the saccharine level pumped up a few notches. "The Flesh Falters" and "Xanadu" hew closely in the soft-rocking melodic blueprint, creating kind of a cute hiester take on Bread. It's Saturday-morning breakfast cereal music for twentysomethings longing to escape from irony.

SCOTT LINGLEY

ARTISTS LIKE RYAN ADAMS SEEM TO WRITE and record songs without even batting an eye or breaking a sweat. His latest EP, *Follow the Lights*, arrives with no announcement, fanfare, or cause for celebration; it's as though Adams has just tossed it to the public, yet another casual installment in what appears to be a one-a-week recording regi-

men. Frankly, I don't know how Adams expects anyone to keep up with him, each new collection of songs comes along before the last one has even had a chance to have a lasting impact on you.

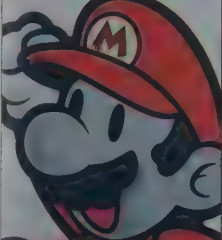
But by the opening chords of *Follow the Lights*, lead title track, you'll find it next to impossible to criticize a songwriter whose only real shortcoming is how prolific he is. On "My Love for You Is Real," backed by the solid rhythm section of The Cardinals, Adams shows he can still craft monolithic piano chords, and he even successfully covers Alice in Chains' "Down in a Hole", injecting some genuinely tragic darkness into an angst-fest that teetered on self-parody in its grunge heyday.



Adams releases records as though they should cost you nothing, but the fact that he can make so many of them this good, this effortlessly, is all part of the charm.

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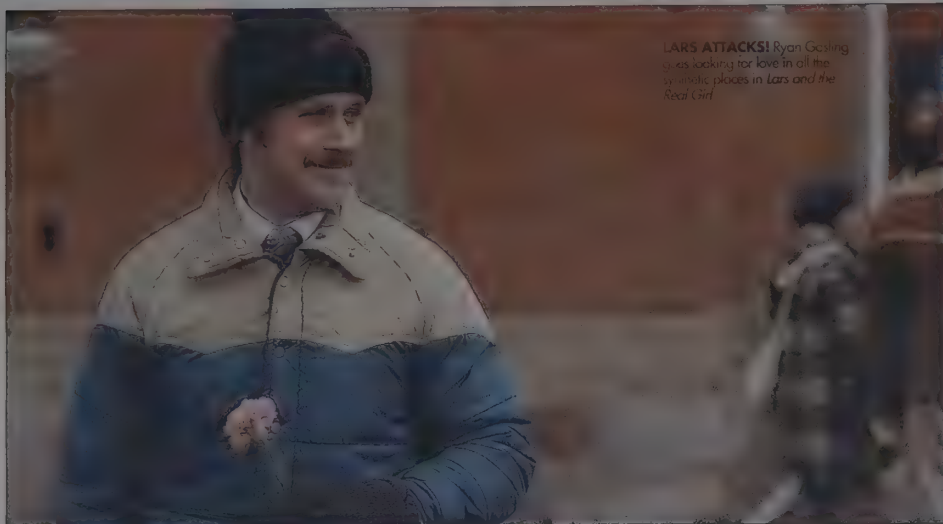


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**LARS ATTACKS!** Ryan Gosling goes looking for love in all the whimsical places in *Lars and the Real Girl*

## The mannequin I love

### *Lars and the Real Girl* artfully redeems tasteless premise

**LARS AND THE REAL GIRL**  
Directed by Craig Gillespie. Starring Ryan Gosling, Emily Mortimer, Paul Schneider.  
Opens Fri, Nov 9. ★★☆☆

*LARS AND THE REAL GIRL* HAS a premise that sounds like it barely has enough potential to fill out a four-minute sketch, the kind they bury in the last 10 minutes of *Saturday Night Live*. It's the story of Lars Lindstrom (Ryan Gosling), a man living in a snowbound small town in what looks like North Dakota or Minnesota—although he's so painfully shy that he'd probably bundle up in sweater and down-

filled jackets even if he lived in southern California. One day, he orders a "RealDoll"—an expensive, anatomically correct female sex mannequin—over the Internet... and then introduces the dead-eyed "Bianca" to his brother Gus and his wife Karin as his new girlfriend.

Lars is obviously nuts—he even hears Bianca talking to him—but Karin decides to follow the advice of the local psychiatrist and indulge his harmless delusion. Before long, the entire town is joining in, and Bianca starts to take on a "life" of her own. (She even gets elected to the school board.) Picture a cross between *Har-*

vey and one of those insane-ventriloquist movies like *Dead of Night* or *Magie*—and then picture the whole improbable combination actually kind of working—and you'd have *Lars and the Real Girl*.

I think I admire *Lars and the Real Girl* more as a technical feat of screenwriting and directing—for its ability to hit the right blend of whimsy and realism and for the way it sustains its unlikely premise—than for anything it has to say about love or loneliness. The film succeeds more because of what it artfully leaves out than what it shows us: screenwriter Nancy Oliver (who also wrote several episodes of *Six Feet Under*) and director Craig Gillespie

(whose only other film, weirdly enough, is *Mr. Woodcock*) never show Lars dressing Bianca, or posing her, or putting her in any kind of undignified situation.

There are no villains in the film either—no one to speak up and make the common-sense observation that Lars' fixation on Bianca is actually pretty creepy. (No one except Gus, that is, but he agrees to put up with the situation for Karin's sake.) And the film carefully dodges the issue of what Bianca was built for as well—Lars, we're told, is saving himself for when they get married. Actually, Lars is such a timid character that having sex with Bianca looks like the furthest thing

from his mind. She's a companion—Wilson the volleyball from *Cast Away*, only with breasts and a vagina.

Ryan Gosling goes a long way towards making this project work. But even this aspect of the film is something I feel a lot of ambivalence about. It's an inventive, meticulously detailed portrait of a closed-off man, a symphony of nervous, tight smiles, distracted head movements, hunched body language, topped off with a head of greasy, badly combed hair and garnished with a mousy little mustache. When Lars goes to a party, his idea of dancing is to stand in the middle of the floor, scrunch his eyes closed, clench his fists, and rock tensely back and forth roughly in time to the music.

Gosling is kind of amazing in this scene (it helps that the song is Talking Heads' "This Must Be the Place," surely one of the most transcendent pop songs ever written), but after a certain point, his performance starts to seem too self-contained for its own good. It's one of those "virtuoso" one-man-band roles that so many hot actors love to tackle—Kevin Spacey and Johnny Depp have built their careers on them—where everything in the movie is set up to indulge their acting choices, so much so that they're not even required to have chemistry with their co-stars.

That said, Gosling has an earnest, boyish charm that's hard to resist—especially when he takes Bianca out to the forest and sings "L-O-V-E" to her at the top of his lungs. To my surprise, the preview audience I saw *Lars and the Real Girl* with was completely won over by it, but I doubt whether it will turn into another *Little Miss Sunshine* at the box office. It's too sweet and Capra-esque for the indie crowd, but the premise will probably be too off-putting for the multiplexers.

And who does that leave to go see it? Are there enough members of the doll-fetish community to make this thing a hit? And if they show up with their "girlfriends," will the theatre staff honour the spirit of the movie and charge them for the extra ticket?

PAUL MATWYCHUK

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## DVD Dictator

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### MIDNIGHT MOVIES

This documentary, based on J. Hoberman and Jonathan Rosenbaum's seminal book of the same name, profiles six "outsider" movies—*Night of the Living Dead*, *El Topo*, *The Harder They Come*, *Pink Flamingos*, *Enterhead*, and *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*—that it argues revolutionized the American film industry. It's a vivid reminder of a time when "indie" movies gave you mutant babies and Divine eating dogshit and not just Steve Carell running after a minivan.

### BERLIN ALEXANDERPLATZ

Rainer Werner Fassbinder's 16-hour 1983 epic about Franz, an ex-con trying, with remarkably little success, to live the straight life in 1920s Berlin—the crowning achievement of an

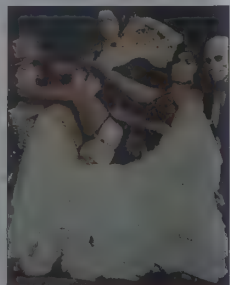
incredibly prolific career, making its DVD debut in a gigantic Criterion edition that Franz probably would have had to work half a year just to be able to afford.

### PARIS, JE T'AIME

While we're touring the great cities of Europe, we should mention this all-star anthology tribute to France's capital, the city of lights, romance, and supercilious waiters. Among the directors contributing segments: the Coen Brothers, Gus Van Sant, Alexander Payne, Olivier Assayas, Alfonso Cuarón, and even Wes Craven.

### THIS IS ENGLAND

Our European tour ends in Britain in 1983, where a fatherless 12-year-old boy gets adopted by a local gang of



**MIDNIGHT MOVIES** *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* is still the queen of cinematic cult classics

skinheads. Shane Meadows' autobiographical film is a fascinating glimpse at the multicultural early days of British skinhead culture before it was co-opted by the racist right wing.



## Bonnie & Clyde & Jean-Luc

**PIERROT LE FOU**  
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard. Starring Jean-Paul Belmondo and Anna Karina. Fri-Wed, Nov 9-14. Metro Cinema (Zeidler Hall, The Citadel). ★★★★★

Now *there's* a philosophical statement you don't often hear from bourgeois men fleeing their stultifying home lives, but for the hero of a Godard film, these are standard quandaries in which to find oneself.

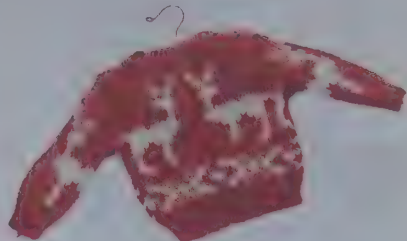
**The film has spark, a bright and appealing quality that somehow sneaks though the showy avant-garde filmmaking.**

As Ferdinand (later morphing into Pierrot), Belmondo ditches his wife and takes up with his ex-lover Marianne (Anna Karina), a babysitter with a dead man in her apartment and a collection of guns against the wall. Soon on the run from gangsters, the couple hit the road Bonnie and Clyde-style, stealing cars and speaking to each other in fragments of dialogue from Hollywood films. Ultimately blank characters through which the director can neatly and gleefully pin observations on popular culture and radical politics. Ferdinand and Marianne are simply marking time as they make their way to the Côte d'Azur, and betrayal is imminent. In between the hookup and the fallout, there's an island reverie, a great deal of '60s glowering and cool posturing, dissonant changes in mood and

Godard has garnered much acclaim for his inventive direction and use of narrative-breaking techniques, but the praise needs to be spread around. Plaudits must also be bestowed on cinematographer Raoul Coutard, who Scorsese later relied on to do much the same work in *Taxi Driver* and who offers up beautiful Cinemascope camerawork that still looks as startling today as it did 42 years ago. The vaunted improvisational scenes might lag but, as with free jazz, when they hit the mark there's an immediacy that can't be captured through conventional filmmaking. Belmondo is Belmondo—still channeling Bogart as he did in *Breathless*, still striking poses—while Karina manages to escape Godard's usual painting of women as deadly and unpredictable mixtures through sheer force of charisma.

The new 35mm print of *Pierrot le Fou* will be a delight for those used to the washed-out video copies making the rounds—and for newcomers, it's a chance to see one of the sources from which many of today's hip young filmmakers cannibalized their ideas.

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on screen

## A paucity of Imagination

Lame execution makes immigration drama drabber than it means to be

### ACTS OF IMAGINATION

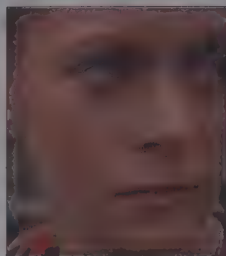
Directed by Carolyn Combs. Written by Michael Springate. Starring Stephanie Hayes, Billy Marchenski, Julian Samuel. Thu-Wed, Nov. 8-14. Metro Cinema (Zoider Hall, The Citadel).

★ ★ ★ ★

INDEPENDENT CANADIAN CINEMA is great, in theory. Sitting through 88 minutes of it however, is sometimes not. Truth be told, halfway through *Acts of Imagination*—an awkward, amateurish tale of history and immigration—I was almost ready to sell my soul and rent *Spider-Man 3*.

The story, written by playwright Michael Springate, follows Ukrainian siblings Katya (Stephanie Hayes) and Jaroslaw (Billy Marchenski) as they attempt to leave their gloomy past behind them and start afresh in Canada. Katya, it seems, struggles on the brink of mental illness as she pieces together the circumstances surrounding the death of her parents, while the newly christened "Jerry" fails to keep his job, impress his Korean girlfriend, or convincingly hang on to his accent through an entire scene.

Things make more sense when we take into account that this is the first feature film for documentary filmmaker Carolyn Combs, who has taken a screenplay with definite potential and attempted to turn it into another documentary. Although there is some notably lovely cinematography—from



**HERE COMES UKRAINE AGAIN**  
Stephanie Hayes is a new Canadian immigrant in *Acts of Imagination*

orange-peeling close-ups to big-sky pans—the clichéd dramatic devices (we've seen sex scenes shot this way 100 times) and irritatingly shaky camerawork only add to the fresh-out-of-theatre-school vibe.

Hayes and Marchenski make the best of what they're given, but these damaged characters probably required more accomplished actors to bring them to life. Jaroslaw's ever-present sneer and Katya's unflinching severity mean that neither character is in any way compelling, nor do they ever really earn the viewer's empathy, despite their miserable circumstances.

In fact, one of the movie's stranger aspects is the unspoken incestuous

desire that exists between the two siblings. But this element of the film seems to be entirely unintentional—an accidental result of the fact that Marchenski has more chemistry with Hayes than his on-screen lover.

The ridiculously wooden supporting cast, none of whom have acted in a feature film before, does nothing to help matters. Julian Samuel, who plays Katya's older Indian lover, spends most of his scenes gazing in the general direction of her breasts while spouting theories on socialism.

To be fair, Combs and Springate have admirable ambitions for the film, but they are constantly lost in long-winded dialogue, jerky flashbacks, stacy acting, and an especially tedious dancing scene. When Katya eventually "explains" the great famine, her words come across as preachy and rehearsed; and her habit of becoming her mother while constructing her memories is both annoying and stilted.

The fact that there are so many Canadians of Ukrainian heritage and the fact that Ukraine's story is so painful means that this subject matter is undeniably important. But telling a depressing story in such a depressing way is neither memorable nor commendable. I'm not looking for the big-budget effects of *Spider-Man*—all I want is some decent acting, a tight script and, as the title suggests, a little imagination.

JESSICA MCGOVERN

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**POKERFACE TOURNAMENT**

Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe in *American Gangster*

## Unoriginal gangsta

Would-be smack epic is *Scarface* minus energy

**AMERICAN GANGSTER**

Directed By Ridley Scott. Starring Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe, Josh Brainin. Now playing. ★★☆☆☆

WELL, ALL RIGHT THEN—NOW HERE'S a fascinating story sprung from that seemingly bottomless reservoir that houses the history of America's most committed free-market entrepreneurs: the organized crime boss.

*American Gangster* tells the story of Frank Lucas who became the heroin king of Harlem in the early '70s by using his connections in Vietnam, where he served, to cut out middlemen and buy primo-grade smack directly from southeast Asia by having the goods shipped to the U.S. inside coffins coming back from the war zone.

Unfortunately, those whose interest is piqued by the case should seek out the *New York* magazine article the film is based on, thereby saving themselves an often portentous drag of a movie experience.

Sure, Denzel Washington, an actor of many accolades, some of them even well-deserved (his turn towards villains has been especially welcome; the Oscar he won for *Training Day* may have been compensation for his more serious per-

formances in other films, but at least the movie was fun), has a sharp and commanding presence here. But his approach to characterizations in *Serious Cinema*—virtually every movie he appears in these days, really—is to move with such fastidious earnestness and build up an impenetrable façade that conceals any of the nuances and quirks that would constitute someone truly human, cold-blooded killer or no.

It doesn't help any though that half the movie's running time is devoted to Crowe's Richie Roberts, a by-the-book cop who busts colleagues on the take and, of course, makes a few enemies along the way. Roberts' story is a good one in its own right, but meaty little contradictions about the guy—such as how he refuses to give in to police corruption but asks a friend to lie on the stand about his own character during a custody fight with his ex—are barely left examined. Like Washington, the equally poker-faced Crowe doesn't upset the importance of the proceedings with anything that could be considered a dynamic turn of character.

Much of *American Gangster*'s lifelessness comes down to the fact that director Ridley Scott is trying to

make too many different movies in his quest for an epic: he throws in a little bit of Michael Mann's *Heat*, a dash of De Palma's *Scarface*, a touch of Lumet's *Serpico*, and pays more than a few debts to Scorsese, especially a montage that reveals the backbone of heroin processing ops, set to the backbeat of Sam & Dave's buoyant "Hold On." (Derivative as it is, this sequence is the most enjoyable part of the film, if only because we get to listen to the always-killer Stax duo.)

One can't help but feel the whole flick would have been much better served if Scott had shown some restraint and done away with most of the police side of the story. Even with Washington's regimented reading, the real story here is Lucas' and, who knows? Given a bit more breathing room, maybe it could have turned into a real classic instead of the drab display of solemnity playing movie theatres in its place.

ZOLTAN VARADI

"AN ASTOUNDING POLITICAL THRILLER."

*Rolling Stone* 10/10/07

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*Jeffrey Lyons, NBC'S REAL TALK*

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# Buried, with children

Farce dresses up in black in *Death at a Funeral*

**DEATH AT A FUNERAL**  
Directed by Frank Oz. Starring Matthew MacFayden, Keely Hawes, Jane Asher, and Ewen Bremner. Now playing. ★★☆☆

DESPITE ONE PARTICULARLY NASTY scatological sight gag, a running joke about an acid trip gone awry, and little bit of slapstick involving the corpse of a familial patriarch, *Death at a Funeral* is a harmless, gentle comedy—the kind of film you'd be comfortable enough to take your Gran to for a Sunday matinee (provided she's not too fussy a Baba and can stand a little bit of prop-room diarrhea).

Matthew MacFayden plays Daniel, a nice, straight-arrow kind of man who, although married, still lives in the family abode and is tasked with arranging his father's funeral—a job complicated by various goofy relatives,

friends, and a mysterious dwarf (Peter Dinklage) whom no one seems to know.

Furthering his aggravation is the wife, who keeps hounding him to secure a down payment on a place of their own (apparently the matter couldn't wait for a more opportune time), and the arrival of his brother, a successful author in America but something of a deadbeat when it comes to ponying up to help cover the cost of giving dad a dignified sendoff.

Not that dignity for the deceased was forthcoming anyway. *Death at a Funeral* wholeheartedly embraces all the silliness of the British farce, and makes sure plenty of mayhem ensues throughout the day: several mourners take pills from a bottle of Valium that actually



## NOT A MOURNING PERSON

Peter Dinklage is a dwarf with a secret agenda in *Death at a Funeral*

contains a potent strain of LSD; the dwarf voices some notably ominous intentions; and the rest of the participants rush in and out rooms, trying to keep a lid on the impending disaster, à la every episode of *Fawlty Towers*.

The whole thing is helmed by an American, Frank Oz, who, regardless of how many movies he makes, will forever be remembered as the voice of Miss Piggy. He seems to think that the greatest contributions in modern comedy have been made by the Farrelly Brothers (*There's Something About*

*Mary, Shallow Hal*), and he does his best to pay them homage with a few grossout segments, which makes for an odd blend of Brit and Yank sensibilities.

The latter influence is the one that ultimately prevails: as in every Hollywood comedy, everyone learns a lesson by the final scene about the importance of family and responsibility—although how this message is strengthened by the presence of an octogenarian with the runs and a few Brits tripping on acid is a little beyond me.

ZOLTAN VARADI

It's the kind of harmless, gentle film you could take your Gran to, provided she can stand a little bit of prop-room diarrhea.

## CRITICS AGREE 'LARS' IS THE REAL DEAL!

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Kenneth Tait *Los Angeles Times*

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Jo Monaghan *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*

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Jim Stuart *Newsday*

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Leah Rooy *People*

"HOWLINGLY FUNNY!"

Dana Finkel *NEW YORK*

## LARS AND THE REAL GIRL



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## More shows about buildings and food

The writers' strike has reconnected me with HGTV and The Food Network

WELL, THE WRITERS' STRIKE IS LESS THAN A week old, and other than the prospect of missing my boy toys Chuck Bartowski and Stephen Colbert, I'm dealing. You might say that I'm in denial (next week: anger), but the truth of the matter is that I've discovered a seamy addiction to food porn and real estate porn.

Yes, when I break it down, I'm spending most of my time on either the Food Network or HGTV, with liberal doses of Turner Classic Movies in there for a "reality" check. I know I'm in trouble when Busby Berkeley musicals from the 1930s seem more realistic than *Selling Properties Abroad*.

Even though new episodes are not being produced, I can't stop watching Phil Spencer and Kirstie Allsop scour the English countryside for homes for some suitably deserving wannabe owners in *Location, Location, Location* and *Relocation, Relocation*. It's a sickness. I even dig Phil's smug grins and Kirstie's "veddy uppah daws" accent.

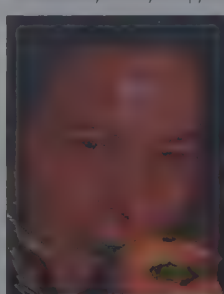
After having gone through the horror of house-hunting myself in the last year, I can appreciate what these families are going through. But the evil schadenfreude part of me loves it when their hopes are dashed by the evil Scottish bidding system. (See, I told you I watch too much of this.)

I wonder which happy couples are then trying a year from now to be on Phil and Kirstie's next TV project, *Bankrupt! Bankrupt! Bankrupt!* (Kidding, kidding.) But then the real estate porn-loving part of me goes, "Ooah, that house has an Aga!" and buys into it, lock, stock and barrel.

Then I move on to Montreal-based *Buy*

## TELEPROMPTER NICOLA SIMPSON KHULLAR

*Me and My House is Worth What?* [Note to viewers: exposure to the Edmonton real estate market may deepen your enjoyment



## IF MEMORY SERVES ME RIGHT...

Chairman Kaga has replaced Stephen Colbert as my TV dream man

of this show.] When I'm in the mood to be scared, I'll watch *Holmes on Holmes* and *How Clean Is Your House?*, which incidentally will motivate you to dust more than the imminent arrival of your mother-in-

law. If that's not bad enough, the Food Channel is killing me these days. Not because of Paula Deen's love for mayonaisse or because I'm ODing on *Sugar*. It's those darn competition shows! I've been a fan of *Top Chef* since the first season, and even though no one contestant is grabbing me this go-around, I still can't stop watching it. Although there's no Slezazy Sommer Stephen to hate, I don't know whether to admire Jennifer Aniston lookalike Casey for her ability to just get by, or snub her for the same reason.

And now I've been hooked by the Chairman himself in *The Next Iron Chef*. It was bad enough to secretly love *Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares* for its vulgar exposé of awfully awful restaurants in the U.K., but developing a foodie crush on Alton Brown can only make things worse. And then just when I thought I was safe, *Jamie's Chef* started.

Shrew. It's enough to make my abused DVR long for the good old days of *Family Guy* reruns. And pity poor Mr. Teleprompter, who would really just prefer a microwaved Pizza Pop to polenta-stuffed trout with a blueberry gastrique.

Why can't I stop watching this stuff? I guess what it all boils down to is our common human desire to be fed and sheltered. What primal need does watching NCIS assuage for me? Nothing. I'm trying to pretend that these shows are educational. I'm learning how to properly braise frog's legs and what to look for in an 18th-century barn conversion. That's gotta help me later in life, right? Right?

Oh, how the flighly have fallen.



# Subterranean lovesick blues

Parking-garage thriller *P2* reminds us why nerds aren't to be trusted

P2

Directed by Franck Khalifoun. Starring Rachel Nichols. Wes Bentley. Opens Fri, Nov 9.  
★★★☆☆

I'VE NEVER LIKED PARKING GARAGES. They're cold, badly lit, full of rodents and spiders, and they smell like gasoline. And don't even get me started on the underground ones. A few years ago, I was trapped for two hours in a parkade beneath an apartment building. It was the most boring two hours of my life—until now.

**Water mains explode, police are foiled, guard dogs are stabbed in the eye. You know, the usual.**

*P2* takes place on Christmas Eve, with workaholic office drone Angela Bridges (Rachel Nichols) putting in some holiday overtime. After some awkward expository conversation with her co-workers, she heads down to the parking garage to take off. But uh-oh, her car won't start. So she goes back upstairs but, uh-oh, everybody's left. She tries to call a cab, but, uh-oh, the building's doors

won't open.

So she goes back down to the garage. There she meets a nice, if slightly maladjusted young security guard named Tom (Wes Bentley, whom you may recall as the kid who was transfixed by a piece of wind-blown litter in *American Beauty*). Tom seems like a sweet kid. He even asks her to stick around for the sad little Christmas dinner he's made for himself in his drab, concrete-walled office. Aww...

Of course, it doesn't take long before Angela is knocked unconscious, shoved into a sexy evening gown, and chained to Tom's Lucite folding table.

But she escapes, and the next hour is a fairly predictable chase through the sub-levels of the parking garage, pursued by her obsessive suitor. Water mains explode, police are foiled, vicious guard dogs are stabbed in the eye. You know, the usual.

Director Franck Khalifoun does a serviceable job ratcheting up the tension, though things never quite reach edge-of-your-seat levels. Nichols screams and runs away from scary things pretty well, while Bentley has some genuinely impressive moments. His character is your stock oddball-loner-turned-homicidal-maniac (implicit message: don't trust nerds!), but he pulls it off with a real sense of menace.

Writer Alexandre Aja, who also

wrote and directed the shamelessly homophobic French thriller *Haute Tension* in 2003 (implicit message: don't trust lesbians!), displays little of the garishly fun bad taste he did in that film—though the scene where a guy gets squished by a car is pretty cool—and the scares and twists he throws in are thin and superficial.

What is it with horror movies these days? It seems like the horror world is chock full of overhyped, undertalented young wunderkinds who never live up to their initial buzz. Aja, Eli Roth, Hong Kong's Pang brothers (the directors of a bunch of mediocre Hong Kong thrillers and this year's atrocious *The Messengers*). All I can say is: don't believe the hype. And avoid those parking garages!

MATTHEW HALLIDAY



**BOO! UNDERGROUND**

Wes Bentley menaces Rachel Nichols in *P2*



bring on the snow, bitches!

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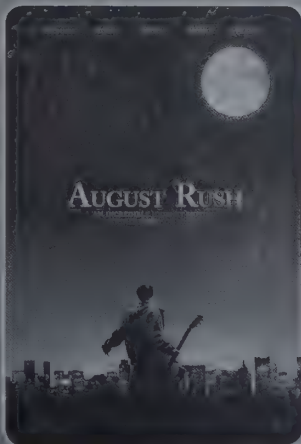
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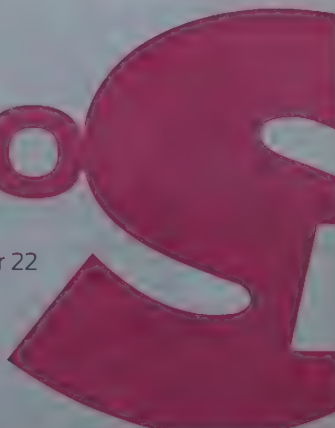


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## BOWLING FOR DOLLS

Ryan Gosling in *Lars and the Real Girl*

## Beyond the Blurbs

This week: *Lars and the Real Girl*: "awwww" or "yuck"?

"WHICH SEEMS CREEPIER? SOMEONE who physically anthropomorphizes an object for sexual purposes? Or someone who is convinced that their fetish is an independent human actor, when they themselves are calling the shots?"

The most obvious forebear here is Mary Chase's play *Harvey*. But Gillespie's film takes place in what otherwise is more naturalistic universe, so the dissonance between the sweet tone and the genuine mental distress that has given rise to Lars's delusion seems greater. Indeed, some might find the whole affair nauseatingly cutesie-poo. But I think there's a worthwhile complex of

themes lurking underneath—it's an impressive triumph over yecchhh."  
—Andy Klein, *L.A. CityBeat*

"LARS' DELICATE HUMOR IS BROUGHT off impressively by its game cast, headed by Gosling, who is quickly attaining must-see status no matter what film he's in. As Lars, Gosling recoils from the world around him; he put on weight for the role, forming jowls that frame the pinched smiles and barrage of embarrassed blinks as he avoids human contact. Even when the script fails, hammering home a cute-girl love interest that's nothing more than a set of girl-next-door clichés, Gosling hunches

his back, catches a glimmer in his eye, and captures the coiled jealousy of an unrequited crush. In Gosling's hands, the subtleties of Lars's delusion become unexpectedly moving; it may be the first time since childhood you cry over a doll's fate."  
—R. Emmet Sweeney, *The Reelers*

"HOW PAINFUL TO WATCH RYAN Gosling, one of the most elastic actors of his generation, smirk and gawp and grimace his way through Craig Gillespie's sissy little number about a pudgy Midwestern office drudge so terrified of human contact that the only, um, person he can bond with is a mail-order Brazilian sex doll. Lurking within the high concept is a Triggering Trauma so wasting (and banal) that it takes not only loving relatives but a whole village of empathic Scandinavian stoics to sort him out. ... *Lars and the Real Girl* wobbles in a slow, toneless no-man's-land between mawkish and schmaltzy while trafficking shamelessly in heartland stereotypes."  
—Ella Taylor, *The Village Voice*

"AN INDIE WOLF IN OLD-STUDIO sheep's clothing, the film is about a sensitive young loner who heaves hurt by the bucket, but finally burrows into the warm, welcoming embrace of his community. It's part comedy, part tragedy and 100 percent pure calculation, designed to wring fat tears and coax big laughs and leave us drying our damp, smiling faces as we savor the touching vision of American magnanimity. It holds a flattering mirror up to us that erases every distortion."  
—Manohla Dargis, *The New York Times*

## 30 DAYS OF NIGHT

Decent premise (vampires invade a night-shrouded Alaskan town), but subpar execution thanks to a director more interested in killing off his cast than building atmosphere and suspense.

★★★☆☆

## THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD

Yes, it's nearly three hours long, and yes, it's a little too inflated with its own crisscross, and yes, it has a ridiculously pompous title, but Brad Pitt's moody, Malickian Western is a pretty spellbinding experience. And as shot-in-Alberta features go, it sure beats *Snow Day*.

★★★★☆

## BEE MOVIE

Jerry Seinfeld seems to have put more position into the publicity campaign for this utterly generic cartoon than the lazy, underwritten script or the cereal-commercial visuals. A black-and-yellow symbol of everything wrong with contemporary Hollywood.

★★★☆☆

## DAN IN REAL LIFE

Fans of Steve Carell's lard-eating *Daily Show* days may be disappointed to see him turning into Tom Hanks, but even they will likely be won over by this goopy but heartfelt comedy about a widower advice columnist from *Pieces of April* director Peter Hedges.

★★★★☆

## THE DARJEELING LIMITED

Wes Anderson's up to his old tricks (meticulously designed sets and costumes, man-children with father issues, scenes that lapse into slow-motion whenever the British Invasion songs play on the soundtrack) as well as a few new ones—the wide-open Indian landscape in particular has loosened up his visual style. A charmer.

★★★★☆



## THE DARJEELING LIMITED

Adrian Brody, Owen Wilson, and Jason Schwartzman model the latest in Indian-tourist footwear

## GONE BABY GONE

Lower-class Boston: land of meth addicts, white-trash thugs and terrible housekeepers. It's also the setting for director Ben Affleck's surprisingly thoughtful and morally complex crime flick, starring babyfaced brother Casey as a detective on the trail of a missing child.

★★★★☆

## INTO THE WILD

It ends with his hero starving to death in the Alaskan wilderness, and yet *Into the Wild* is still the most upbeat film Sean Penn has ever made. Credit goes to Emile Hirsch's winning performance as nature-loving thrill-seeker Chris McCandless, and to Penn's ecstatic yet skeptical embrace of his idealistic worldview.

★★★★☆

## LUST, CAUTION

Ang Lee's slow-moving, sexually explicit espionage thriller stars newcomer Tony Wei as a neophyte spy who discovers her kinky, submissive side when she's sent to seduce a traitorous government official (the great Tony Leung). It could use more energy, but the sex scenes are exceptional.

★★★★☆

## MARTIAN CHILD

Widower John Cusack decides to work through his grief by adopting a kid—a winsome tyke who believes he's from outer space. Adorable, right? Well...no, actually—just another example of Hollywood's persistent (and cruel) belief that there's no psychological disorder love can't cure.

★★★★☆

## MICHAEL CLAYTON

George Clooney brings every ounce of his movie-star charm to bear on this snazzy, well-crafted thriller about a cash-strapped legal "fixer," his brilliant but off-his-meds mentor, and the evil agricultural conglomerate trying to weed them both out.

★★★★☆

## RENDITION

Strong cast (Jake Gyllenhaal, Peter Sarsgaard, Meryl Streep), strong message (torture is bad!), fairly weak-willed execution. Hollywood's obviously still figuring out how to take this whole "War on Terror" thing and turn it into entertainment.

★★★★☆

## SAW IV

Luke from *Gilmore Girls*? What are you doing in this thing? Go back to Stars Hollow—Lorelai misses you!

★★★★☆

## WE OWN THE NIGHT

One brother's good, one brother's bad. The sibling split at the heart of James Gray's caps-and-gangsters saga is as old as the Bible, and it still has the power to stir moviegoers' souls. Well, the male ones, anyway.

★★★★☆

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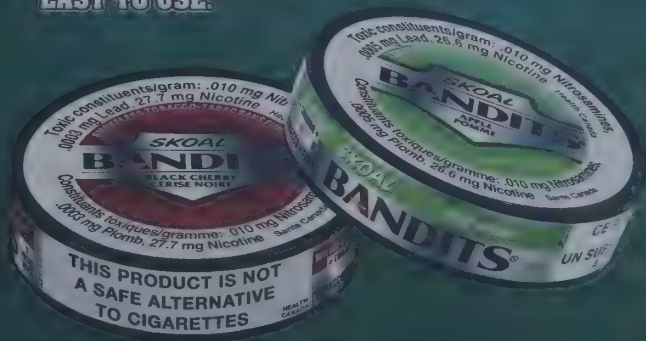
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# food and drink

## Better than McLentil

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WHEN YOU GET RIGHT DOWN TO IT, Edmonton is a fast-food town. Despite its many high-end, chi-chi dining rooms, its authentic ethnic outlets, its good-of-fashioned greasy-spoon diners and all points between, E-ville most abundantly caters to the tastes of its drive-thru addicted, supersizing, brand-name loving lowest common denominator.

And this, I believe, is the biggest obstacle to clearing the bar as an urban metropolis with a street culture worth the name. We're strip mall people and, more pointedly, we're chicken strip people—mechanically separate it, grind it up, bread it, deep fry it, and serve it to us with barbecue sauce. And we shall be forever loyal.

Where, I ask you, are the healthier convenience-food alternatives? Where can an individual experience variety, exoticism and perhaps, just maybe, a smidgen of surprise when trying to grab a quick bite? Kabuli Grill, purveyor of "Indian-inspired" comestibles, marks a positive development in the chain restaurant domain of the convenience food industry. With branches in Calgary

and Vancouver, Kabuli Grill presents the sort of generic atmosphere and systematized food presentation you'd expect from a chain. But if you happen to be vegetarian or you'd like to enjoy a meal no element of which has been plunged into a tank of boiling fat, there's reason to stop and take a look within.

The marquee item of the Kabuli Grill menu is the combo plate. From a rather broad slate of selections, you can customize your meal around a base of rice (basmati or tandoori) or potatoes (spinach potatoes or mango-black pepper potatoes). Lentils are also standard on the combo plate and you can choose between curry lentils and masala lentils, the latter of which my server assured me was the spicier option. He also assured me that having a half-tandoori rice/half-spinach potato to base for my combo was within my rights. I asked him to play some of the spicier lentils on top.

As a patron of the two-item combo (\$8.79), I was further entitled to a vegetable selection and a meat selection. This was no easy feat. The choice among veg dishes alone included spinach and chickpeas, coconut carrots, fenugreek, mushrooms, masala green beans and vegetable samosas. On the meat side I could choose from mango meatballs, lamb sausage, tandoori chicken, butter chicken, tamarind chicken, tropical chicken and, that day's special feature, brinjal baby back ribs. Mixed vegetables seemed the way to satisfy my desire for a varied plate, and though the ribs were calling to me strongly, I decided that butter chicken might be a more substantial main dish. To this assortment of multi-

hued pools of food I added an order of naan bread (\$0.99).

It occurs to me now that Kabuli Grill's decision to identify their food as "Indian-inspired" may have arisen from liability issues for, certainly, someone expecting an Indian feast would be disappointed. My combo plate featured the colours and aromas of Indian food, but it didn't really pass muster in the Indian flavour department. The textures were all there—aside from the doughy prebaked naan bread, which added very little to the meal but bulk—but there wasn't anything especially bold or assertive about the assembled tastes, at least not when considered individually.

Oddly, the meal taken as a whole was much more savoury than any individual item, each of which tended toward bland. The discreet bits of pineapple in the mixed vegetables stood out and the butter chicken was pleasantly rich, but the real hero of the meal was the bottle of habanero pepper sauce on hand to deliver the spiciness that didn't even abide in the spiciest lentils. I guess this is a hazard endemic to chain restaurants in general: erring on the side of safety when it comes to flavour to please as many palates as possible.

But you know, naan bread aside, I felt a lot better about my purchase than if I'd gone and spent the same at the nearest Subway, where the appearance of healthy selection is belied by the fact that everything tastes pretty much the same. Until an authentic alternative presents itself in my neighbourhood, I can get by with "Indian-inspired." But please pass the hot sauce.

SCOTT LINGLEY

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### SOUTHEAST ASIAN

**NINH KIEU** (10708-98 St.) If you're a fan of the venerable Vietnamese noodle soup pho, give the Ninh Kieu a try. Everything about the place is fairly standard and similar to what you would normally expect from this type of restaurant, except for the pho, which is really quite good. Ok, I guess the green onion cake is pretty good too. ★★★★★ (Jan 2007)

### FINE DINING

**HARDWARE GRILL** (9698 Jasper Ave.) Arguably one of the best restaurants in Edmonton. Be warned however, if you go, it's an undertaking. Definitely not the type of

place you just pop into with friends on a whim for a light casual meal. Be prepared to fast for at least a week before going, and hibernate afterwards (portions are way too big and priced accordingly). Definitely a special occasion restaurant. ★★★★★ (Feb 2007)

### KOREAN

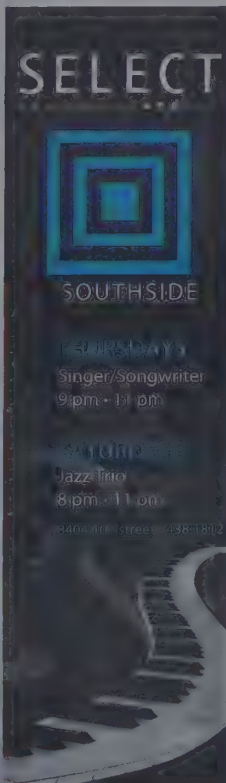
**GAYA** (11147-87 Ave.) One hot little shik-dong. Reasonably priced Korean food in hole-in-the-wall surroundings. Be prepared to wait for a table, and don't expect to linger after you've finished. Well worth it nonetheless. ★★★★★ (Nov 2006)

### INDIAN

**HAWELI** (10220-103 St.) Tasty food and excellent naan bread, but be warned—they do a lunch buffet. If that's your thing, this could well be your place. If it's not your thing, I'd say maybe try Haweli for dinner. ★★★★★ (Feb 2007)

### FAMILY

**VICKY'S FAMILY DINING** (993 Fir St., Sherwood Park) This popular spot in Sherwood Park is great for those times when you don't feel like vegetables or fresh foods prepared from scratch. The expensive cuts of meat they use are hard to screw up, so they'll likely be juicy and tender, but that's hardly setting the bar very high. ★★★★★ (Jan 2007)





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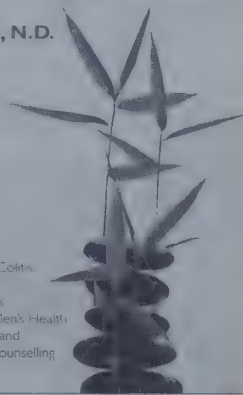
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## Toronto lowlife

### Frank Zotter's dazzling tour of the gutter

#### STUCK

Directed by Rob Moffatt. Written by David Rubinoff. Starring Frank Zotter. To Nov 10. The Third Space (11516-103 St). Tickets available at TIX on the Square (420-1757).

IN ORDER TO REALLY EXPERIENCE *LIFE*—capital-letters-italics-sort-of-life—*LIFE* in its most direct, messy, and unmediated form, Jack Kerouac hitched rides, paid bus fare, and drove dilapidated cars around America.

The point wasn't to get anywhere in particular; it was the road itself that was important, the ever-changing panoply of experiences that could be gained through relentless travel.

Even while staying in one city Kerouac couldn't sit still. And his way of life—romanticized and inaccurate as his portrayal of it was—has deeply influenced the generations that have followed him. Take Jack, the hero of David Rubinoff's one-man play *Stuck*.

In between taking drugs, drinking immoderately with overly friendly old women, cruising for sex, and trying to get a job as an actor, Jack spends his time looking at his life and philosophizing:

"So this morning I get up and wander down to Dundas/To the World's Biggest Bookstore.../And I look till I find this book.../That explains every fuckin' dream but mine!"

The stanza breaks are deliberate: Workshop West's new production

of *Stuck* is an extended poem—a drug-, sex-, and fear-induced frenzy of words that will dazzle and terrify anyone within earshot.

Frank Zotter plays Jack, the young would-be actor who's so down on his luck that he'll give blowjobs for a "special mix of grass and no-name manmade shit."

His rich fantasy life, his minute-to-minute encounters, and his modernity-inspired malaise are all inspired by the Beats, reflected in the jumble of graphic, poetic words that Jack uses to entice and repulse his audience. Zotter's Jack is touching, a completely committed character who moves with the buoyancy and nervousness of a drug addict.

From the moment he enters the stage, Zotter commands the room—his lines and movements are the sole guiding force in the 75-minute piece, so Zotter has to be sure that the audience is immediately and completely with him.

And we are: Zotter is as charming, whimsical, and funny a presence as you could hope for, luring us into Jack's world before revealing its dark, violent side.

When I read Rubinoff's script, I was struck by how grim it seemed and wondered whether such a dark and extreme view of Toronto would be difficult to sit through.

I don't easily admit this, but my impression was entirely wrong—Zotter's timing, energy, and thorough understanding of his character (characters, actually) brings out

*Stuck's* humour, giving a few cathartic moments of deep laughter before plunging into Jack's troubled psyche. And if some of the characters Jack encounters seem wildly improbable, they're fully in keeping with the distorted perspective of a drug addict.

For example, Zotter's characterization of Mona—a grasping, hunched, haggard-voiced former child model who buys Jack drinks in a desperate bid for attention—may be bizarre, but it's oddly believable if only because Jack believes so strongly in this vision of her.

The set is simple, consisting of two matched and connected blocks that give Zotter an extra level and several nooks to play with.

David Fraser's lighting is inspired, using bare essentials to create different spaces for Jack to travel through: when a row of four lights downstage left goes on and Jack walks through them, for instance, we instantly recognize that we're back on the street.

And the street is Jack's natural home. Like the Beats before him, Jack is forever taking to the road, even if he never strays beyond Toronto's city limits.

Through his travels he introduces us to a plethora of strange and wonderful characters—and he's tops on that list—and by journey's end, he's reached a deeply disturbing, moving, and profound understanding of the human experience.

MICHAEL MCNICHOL

#### BEAT CRAZY!

Frank Zotter tours the mean streets of Toronto in *Stuck*.



## Theatre Questionnaire!

### Dust playwright Mark Stubbings answers *SEE's* morbid queries

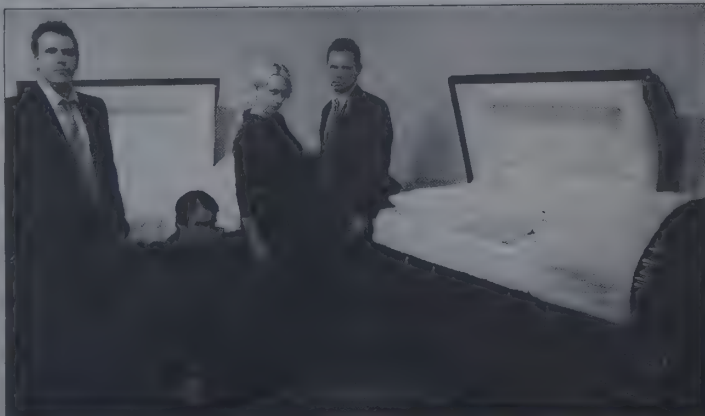
#### DUST

Directed by Dave DeGagné. Written by Mark Stubbings. Starring Stewart Burdett, Charles Netto, Mark Stubbings, Elizabeth Ludwig. Nov 6-18 (8pm). Transalta Arts Barns (10330-84 Ave). Tickets available at TIX on the Square (420-1757).

FOR A PLAY ABOUT THE FUNERAL industry, *Dust* has shown an amazing refusal to die. Mark Stubbings' black comedy—about three hearse drivers whose hard-shelled indifference to the grief surrounding them develops some sizeable cracks when a young woman joins their team—has already been produced at NextFest and the Edmonton Fringe Festival. Now Stubbings' script (which won the "Discovery" category in the 2003 Alberta Playwriting Competition) is getting exhumed all over again at the Arts Barns as part of the Indie 5 theatre series.

*SEE* decided to take advantage of Stubbings' standing as the Edmonton stage's leading expert on bucket-kicking by asking him a few questions about death, funerals, and the great beyond. His answers were surprisingly lively.

Does the younger generation have a different attitude toward funerals than their parents and grandpar-



#### ents?

I think it has become less of a taboo to talk about death openly over the years. So I think the younger generation has been prepared to deal with the funeral process more so. We are the *Six Feet Under* generation.

Open casket funerals: morbid North American custom or welcome last chance to be with a loved one?

The fact that you are pretty much viewing a plastic inflated figure version of your loved one after all the embalming and reconstruction?

I'd say morbid custom.

Would you ever want to become a mortician yourself? What are advantages and drawbacks of the profession?

No, I have a bad habit of putting my foot in my mouth in awkward situa-

tions and that doesn't really fly with the bereaved. Advantages: I spoke to a few who said the job was really rewarding, that they do a lot of good for people in their time of need. And getting dibs on a good cemetery plot would be nice. I think the drawback would be nine-to-five sadness.

What was the first funeral you ever attended?

At the risk of sounding like I didn't do my research, I have never been to a funeral.

What song would you want to have played at your funeral?

"I Don't Want to Grow Up" by Tom Waits. Or "Hey Ya!" by OutKast—I dare you not to dance to that song!

Would this be a quiet, dignified funeral, or an all-out Hunter S. Thompson bash?

All-out Hunter S. Thompson bash, with elephant rides and the Rockettes kickline dancing on my grave.

What epitaph would you want on your gravestone?

"What are you looking at? You're next."

Would you want to know the exact date of your death? Why?

Yes, I would. It would really cut down on procrastination and give me a definite deadline for the play I'm writing now.

PAUL MATWYCHUK



# Pushing up crazies

Madness (and crossdressing) reign supreme in *What the Butler Saw*

## WHAT THE BUTLER SAW

Directed by Ron Jenkins. Written by Joe Orton. Starring Garrett Spelliscy, Jennifer Fader, Stacy Berg, Ryan Parker. To Nov 10 (7:30pm). Timms Centre for the Arts (University of Alberta). Tickets available at TIX on the Square (420-1757).

OF ALL THEATRICAL GENRES, FARCE is perhaps the trickiest to stage flawlessly. (Not counting 21-man human pyramids, of course.) Play it too straight, and you risk missing the brunt of the humour. Play it too recklessly for laughs, and the audience's suspension of disbelief is shattered beyond repair. Studio Theatre's production of Joe Orton's *What the Butler Saw* leans more toward the "wink and a nudge" school of thought—sometimes throwing in a vicious elbow to the gut for good measure.

Garrett Spelliscy, who gives the evening's most deadpan performance (at least compared to some of his colleagues), is Dr. Prentice, a psychiatrist who as the play begins, is attempting to seduce the young Geraldine Barclay (Jennifer Fader), who hopes to become his new secretary. In typical farce fashion, Prentice's wife walks in during this "interview," forcing the good doctor to hide the object of his lust behind a curtain. This simple action opens up Pandora's box of unintended consequences, and the increasingly frantic action and the increasingly outrageous revelations about the various characters' private lives (including Mrs. Prentice's nymphomaniacal trysts with hotel bellboys) never let up until the play's climax.

Completed shortly before Orton's murder by his lover in 1967, *What the Butler Saw* is a sly jab—okay, a downright unsubtle slap—at the repressed British bourgeoisie of the 1960s. Attitudes towards sexuality, class barriers, gender politics, and the slippery definition of "sanity" are all taken apart and turned on their head—it's one of those rare comic plays that's entertaining and vividly funny just on the page.

But it can be downright explosive



ORTON-ARY PEOPLE A perfectly normal moment from *What the Butler Saw*

onstage, and this production does a good job of juggling its many combustible elements. Spelliscy finds a way to keep the audience empathizing with Dr. Prentice's predicament—even though he really doesn't have anyone to blame for his situation besides himself. (And some incredibly bad luck. And a gleefully sadistic playwright.) Stacy Berg is convincingly coitus-hungry as his sex-crazed spouse, while Ryan Parker attacks his role as visiting asylum inspector Dr. Rance (who just might be the most deranged person onstage) with Col. Klink-like enthusiasm. Parker risks going too far over the top with his performance, but for the most part he manages to keep his madness in check.

Which is more that can be said for most of Orton's characters. There are

instances where the momentum of the play seems a half-step too fast or slow, and a few potentially funny lines fall flat due to awkward timing. But that's not too much of a problem in a play like this one; when outrageous events fly by as quickly and thickly as they do here, a flubbed line here and there (obviously the result of opening night jitters) registers more as a missed opportunity than a genuine flaw in the production.

Despite the occasional stumble and the uneven British accents, director Ron Jenkins nails Orton's irreverent spirit. *What the Butler Saw* may no longer seem as scandalous as it did when it premiered, but it's every bit as funny. Edna Welthorpes of the world, beware!

RENATO PAGNANI

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by David Rubinoff

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# Can't... breathe...

Two underachievers and a stroke victim gasp for air in disappointing *Choke*

## CHOKÉ

Directed by Marianne Copthorne. Written by Catherine Rootsaert. Starring Chris Bullough, Kevin Corey, Marilyn Ryan. To Nov 18. Roxey Theatre (10708-124 St). Tickets: 453-2440. [www.theatrenetwork.ca](http://www.theatrenetwork.ca)

EVERY FAMILY HAS ITS DISAPPOINTMENTS, its difficulties—some more

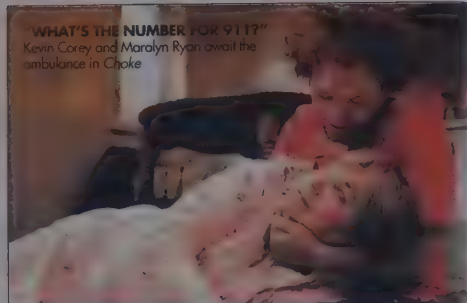
than others. There's always an odd cousin, a slacker brother, an enabler, or an addict. Perfect families may only exist on television—and even those fictional clans went extinct around the time *The Waltons* went off the air. Kathleen Rootsaert's new play *Choke* isn't interested in the perfect family, or even a truly dysfunctional one; rather, *Choke* follows

one member of an unsuccessful family through a journey of self-discovery that affects his entire life as well as that of his mother and brother.

Dylan (Kevin Corey) is a loser in his late twenties who still lives at home with his nurse mother, Catherine (Marilyn Ryan). He spends his days smoking pot, playing endless videogames, and worrying about his future without taking any action to better his life. Dylan's older brother Greg (Chris Bullough) isn't much better—he's been employed in the same dead-end job for 15 years, has kept his fiancée hanging for six years, and refuses to take responsibility for his many duplicitous actions. Catherine, a classic "supportive" mom, allows her boys to get away with just about anything—except, of course, swearing in her presence—all the while trying to boost their supposedly fragile egos.

What starts out as a more realistic version of *Failure to Launch* changes course near the end of the first act, when Catherine suffers a stroke, leaving the right side of her body paralyzed and severely impairing her speech. Suddenly the perennial caregiver must be cared for, a situation that presents her two lazy and self-centred sons with a dilemma about their lives, their mother, and the best choice they can make for her.

*Choke* isn't your average family dramedy—with its frequent reliance



WHAT'S THE NUMBER FOR 911? Kevin Corey and Marilyn Ryan await the ambulance in *Choke*

on ridiculous bits of stage business, the play's comedic aspects take precedence over its emotional content. Granted, some of these broader moments reveal a lot about these two brothers, as in the opening scenes where Greg tries to help Dylan with his girl problems by pretending to be a girl himself. His posturing and mincing are amusing (as is the idea that Dylan could possibly get better at talking to women by practicing with his commitment-phobic brother), but the scene has little bearing on the rest of the play.

*Choke*'s choppy structure hampers it as well. The script consists of so many tiny scenes separated by monologues from Dylan (actually, a series of e-mails addressed to his Korean girlfriend/prospective mail order bride) that there's scant time for the action to build momentum or for the characters to bond organically.

Still, it must be said that Corey delivers those monologues beautifully, judiciously revealing small

moments of emotion and character, slowly letting Dylan become an actual individual rather than a stereotypical ungrateful child. Ryan is strong as the mother, particularly in the scenes after Catherine's stroke, when her confusion and inability to communicate present a host of technical acting challenges. But Ryan finds a way to let Catherine's small moments of frustration, grief, and humour shine, and her performance is what *Choke*'s highlight. Bullough, meanwhile, seems to have started Greg on too high a note, leaving himself little room to grow in the scenes that call for larger emotional responses.

*Choke* has the opposite problem, however—it starts off small and doesn't go as big as you think it will. Despite the rambunctious performances and a premise with lots of potential for black comedy and high emotion, it's a strangely unemotional piece of theatre.

MICHAEL MCNICHOL

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**NEW CITY** 10081 Jasper Ave., Palladium Building  
429-CLUB — The Rake, Jezebel, Rat Boyz, Rat  
San Dos Ointz  
**RENDEZVOUS** 10108-149 St. 444-1822 — Sat  
Worms, The Luck Project, Black Axis  
**STARLITE ROOM** 10030-102 St. 428-1099 — Fri  
Wasapic w/ guests, Sat Pride Tiger w/ Long  
Way Down, Hollard, Sun GOMP w/ The Part  
2, Wed II Scarlett w/ guests, Saturdays @ The  
Temple DJ: Smog w/ Degrees & All Out DJs  
**THE STUDIO/MEAD HALL** 10940-1664 St. — Fri  
Dreams of Treason, This Very Day, Perfect Blue,  
Brother Voodoo, Tuxedo Black (AA), Sat  
Greater Than Giants, Breakaway, Attack  
Addict, Felix, Capture the Hills, The John  
Spirator Project (AA), Sun Punk Sunday w/  
Hazardous Punks & guests (AA), Tue Jay and  
the Lovebirds w/ guests (AA)  
www.myspace.com/theshediomnion  
**THE PAINN SHOP** 10551-82 Ave (upstairs) 432-  
0914 — Thu Lee Burridge & Dennis Lazarus,  
Fri Frosted Taz w/ Bayonets & guests, Sat Them  
Dumb Coyotes w/ Hollywood Assassins & Lipst,  
Sun Hot Panda w/ Boots, Tim Gilberston, Mark  
Pierce Project  
**URBAN LOUNGE** 10544 Whyte Ave. 437-7699 —  
The Neil McDonald, Fri-Sat Line of Sight, Sun  
Exit 303, Wed Haven, www.urbanlounge.net  
**VELVET UNDERGROUND** 10030-102 St. 428-7827  
Thursdays KEMLS WICK w/ NIK 7, Fri  
Moses Mayer, Grit Nobody, Sat Rappers, Down  
North, NIK 7, Gordon Thomas, Sun The Uncies,  
7 & 7 is, guests, Tuesdays Shakedown w/ DJ  
Generic, Wednesdays Ponic with the J-bots

## BLUES & ROOTS

**AXIS CAFE** 10349 Jasper Ave., 990-0031 — Fri  
Keith & Renee of Easily Amused w/ Greg  
Neufeld, Sat John Gulick & the New Logans,

Wed Hayley Sales, www.myspace.ca  
**BLUE CHAIR CAFE** 9624-76 Ave., 789-2861 —  
Thu Kat Damsir, Fri House Kats, Sat Ron Roult  
Trot, www.bluechair.ca  
**BLUES ON WHITE** 10239-82 Ave. 439-5058 —  
Thu-Sat Men Shannon, Sundays The Hardline  
Blues Band, Mon-Wed Steve Strongman  
**CAFE LEVA** 11053-86 Ave. — Thursdays Mellow  
gold w/ Travis Boos  
**CASTLEROCK PUB** 570 St. Albert Rd. — Thursdays  
A Knight in the Round Table w/ Sir George  
**THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE** 9251-118 Ave.,  
471-1580 — Fri Shabby Back bottles  
www.myspace.ca  
**EDDIE SHORTS** 10713-124 St., 453-3663 —  
Thursdays The T-Lown w/ Mott, Mark & Rick,  
Fri-Sat Slawburn  
**FRESH START CAFE** 484 Riverbend Square, 433-  
9623 — Fri Prairie Cuts, Sat Scott Cook  
**SECOND CUP** Gateway Plaza, 10710-34 Ave.,  
485-3100 — Mondays live music  
**WHISTLESTOP LOUNGE** 12416-132 Ave. 451-  
5306 — Fri-Sat The Groovehounds

## JAZZ

**FOUR ROOMS** 137 Edm City Centre East, 426-  
4767 — Thu-Sat Jim Hatfield  
**IVORY CUB & EBONY LOUNGE** 2940 Calgary Tr.  
South, 465-6800 — Duetting piano shows every  
Thu 8 pm, Fri & Sat 9 pm. Info  
http://www.ivorycub.com  
**JEFFREYS CAFE & WINE BAR** 9640-142 St., 451-  
8990 — Thu Trey Mills & Randy Hutchings,  
Fri Robert Wallack, Sat Diana Stabel  
**JULIAN'S PIANO BAR** Chateau Louis, 11727  
Kingway Ave., 452-7770 — Thu-Fri Graham  
Morrison, Sat Dennis Beggs  
**YAKBIRD SUITE** 10203-86 Ave. 432-0428 — Thu  
Diana Stabel, Rosemary Galloway Quintet, Fri  
Don Bradshaw, 8 Big Idea, D.D. Jackson, Sat Bill  
George Quartet, Gordon Grdina Trio

## POP & ROCK

**BLACKDRAUGHT PUB** 8307-99 St., 430-9200 —  
Fri-Fri-Fri, Sat-Fri  
**BUDDY'S** 11729 Jasper Ave. 488-7736 —  
Sundays & Mondays DJ Rudy Electro  
**CASINO EDMONTON** 7035 Argyle Rd. 463-9467  
— Fri-Sat The Jo-Hill Band  
**CASINO YELLOWHEAD** 12664-153 St. 424-9467  
— Fri-Sat Sonoma Rock  
**CENTURY CASINO** 13103 Fort Rd. 443-4000 —  
Fri-Sat Gary Lewis and the Playboys  
**THE DOCKS** Londonderry Mall, 476-DOCK —  
Thursdays & Fridays DJ Harry James, Sat Third  
Persen View  
**JERKYL & HYDE PUB** 10510-100 Ave., 426-5381  
— Fridays & Saturdays Headwind  
**ON THE ROCKS** 11740 Jasper Ave., 482-4767 —  
Fri-Sat Ozzy Osbourne, Sundays Souljah Fly  
**TOUCH OF CLASS GAMING ROOM** Chateau Louis,

11727 Kingway Ave., 452-7770 — Fri-Sat  
Billy Ringo

## PUB MUSIC

**O'BRYNES IRISH PUB** 10616-82 Ave., 414-6766  
— Tuesdays Celtic jam w/ Shannon Johnson &  
Irish dancers, Wednesdays Chris Wynters w/  
guests  
**ROSE & CROWN PUB** 10235-101 St. 426-7827  
**SHERLOCK HOLMES** Bourbon St. WEM, 444-1752  
**SHERLOCK HOLMES** Capilano Mall, 463-7785  
**SHERLOCK HOLMES** Downtown, 10012-101A  
Ave., 426-7784

## DANCE CLUBS

### ALTERNATIVE

**BACKROOM VODKA BAR** upstairs, 10324-82  
Ave. 436-4415 — Thu Electro Education w/ DJ  
Lazerbeam, trip hop, dub lounge, electro &  
IDM mash-up, drink specials Fri Funky Fridays  
w/ Phil & Friends, Sat Body & Soul Saturdays  
w/ Remo De Janeiro, Weylan Sherrington &  
weekly guests  
**BOOTS** 10242-106 St. 423-5014 — Open 7  
days/week, Happy Hour, 3 to 8 pm Fri Retro  
Disco Sat Flashback Saturdays w/ DJ Derrick &  
DJ/Beatmaster Free jams & tournament, DJ  
Arrowcrazer Wed Hung Day w/ DJ Sassy  
Sean Thu Wet Undies contest w/ Mia Fellow &  
DJ West Coast Baby Daddy Fri DJ Eddy Toonish  
Dance Party, no cover before 10 pm Sat Ute  
Night (free entry) free pop & tournament, DJ  
Arrowcrazer  
**DANTE'S BISTRO** 17320 Story Plain Road, 486-  
4448 — Fri-Fri Fridays text messaging singles  
party Sat DJ Johnny Rey, Closed Sun. Info  
www.dantesbistro.com  
**DEVIN'S** 10507-82 Ave., 437-7489 — Happy  
hour until 7 pm every night  
**DEWEY'S Powerplant** (U of A) — Hours, Mon-Wed  
9 am - 2 pm, Thu 9 am - 2 am, Fri 9 am - 3  
am  
**FILTHY MCNASTYS** 10511-82 Ave. (upstairs),  
437-7489 — Happy Hour Every Day 5 - 8 pm  
Mon-Metal Mondays Tue Twisted Trivia Wed  
Box set college night Thu Punk Rock Bingo Fri &  
Sat Skate Yo' Ass Weekend w/ DJ Series K  
(dance, old, rock, retro) Sun Industry night, half  
price everything  
**HALO** 10538 Jasper Ave., 423-4256 — Fri The  
Mod Club - Soul R&B, indie, hip pop, new  
wave, reggae & classic punk w/ DJ Blue Jay II  
Tray, DJ Junior For Those Who Know - House  
music feat. Junior Brown, Luke Morrison, and  
Nastor Delano  
**JET NIGHTCLUB & SPORTS LOUNGE** 9221-34  
Ave., 456-6552 — Fri & Sat live bands, plus a  
mix of modern rock  
**LEVEL 2 LOUNGE** 11607 Jasper Ave. — The Higher  
Level Thursdays drum & bass w/ DJs  
Dreadnought, Phil Cat, MC Enlie and guests Fri  
Formula Fridays DJ Groovy Curry, DJ Fouze Sat  
Planet Indigo Suggestive Saturdays, breaks elec-  
tro house spun by PI residents  
**NEW CITY ULTRA LOUNGE** 10081 Jasper Ave.,  
429-CLUB — Mon-Mon on Metal Mondays  
Tue In the UK w/ Dr. Erick, med R&B, north-  
ern soul 60s garage & med revival Wed  
Roboball DJ 3000 Thu Bride of Bingo w/ Dexter  
Nebula & Anarchy Adam Fri Friday Night Free  
Kick w/ DJ Jello, Sat Anarchy Adam & CJSR &  
G-Whiz Sat Rock 'n' Roll/Heaven 'n' Hell w/  
Nazz Nomad II Beard of Bees  
**NEW CITY SUBURBS** 10081 Jasper Ave., 429-  
CLUB — Thu 1 to 3 pm 80s Fri Back Back Back w/  
DJ Danish, Plan B, Sat Saturdays Seek w/ Greg  
Gary & Blue Jay Wed DJ Wednesdays, 4 original  
bands  
**ON THE ROCKS** 11740 Jasper Ave. 482-4767 —  
The Sabo Thursdays w/ DJ Roger & Ektara, free  
beginner lesson 9 pm Fri DJ Shawna, Sat DJ  
Donnyum Mon Drink the bar dry Karaoke Wed  
Wings, Sun All Day Happy Hour, Hours, Mon-Sun,  
11 am - 2 am  
**PRISM BAR & GRILL** 10524-101 St., 990-0038 —  
Wed Wings The Sports trivia, Call for upcoming  
events.

# EIGHT DAYS A WEEK

PICK OF THE WEEK



## RIVER CITY ROCKOUT VELVET UNDERGROUND

Remembrance Day marks the inaugural River City Rockout, which takes place in conjunction with the River City Roundup events this week across the city. The lineup features The Uncies, 7and7's, The Wheat Pool, and plenty of hootenanny good times. Proceeds support local charities. (10030-102 St.)

## WHAT THE BUTLER SAW TIMMS CENTRE

Studio Theatre explores themes of madness and power in Joe Orton's furiously paced, risqué comedy, directed by Ron Jenkins. (U of A campus)

## GLOBE GALLERY CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS

A one-night showcase introducing talented artists who have recently immigrated to Edmonton, featuring multicultural entertainment, goodies, and unique art for sale. (10010-107A Ave.)

## PRIDE TIGER STARLITE ROOM

Kicking off the long weekend at the Starlite are Vancouver's proudest soul-rock sons, joined by Long Way Down and Hollard. (10030-102 St.)

## THE FILMS OF STANLEY KUBRICK METRO CINEMA

Sunday afternoons in November, Metro Cinema presents selections from the formidable Kubrick canon. This week: *Paths of Glory* (noon), *Dr. Strangelove* (2pm), *Full Metal Jacket* (4pm).

## LETTERS IN WARTIME AZIMUTH THEATRE

RIBBITrePUBLIC remounts their 2006 Fringe hit for two performances only, in honour of Remembrance Day. Shows at 2pm and 8pm. (11315-106 Ave.)

## DUST TRANSLATA ARTS BARN

Mark Shubbings' new play studies the only true universal experiences: death and loss. Taxes notwithstanding, of course. Runs until Nov 18. (10330-84 Ave.)

## TOUCH OF PINK STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY THEATRE

After abandoning his widowed mother for a lavish life in the U.K. with his partner, a young Indo-Canadian man returns to Toronto to face his family. Co-starring Kyle MacLachlan as Cary Grant!

## PERIOD: THE END OF MENSTRUATION? METRO CINEMA

This doc interrogates the current marketing campaigns for products that suppress "the monthly curse," and examines the cultural and medical side effects of such treatments.

## TICKETS LEGEND

AIRD - Arden Theatre, 55 St. Anne Street, St. Albert, (780) 459-1542, boxoffice@st-albert.net, ardenttheatre.com • CIT - Châtel Theatre, 9828-101A Ave., 425-1820, 1-888-425-1820, cittheatre.com • HOR - Horizon Stage, 315 Jasper Ave., Spruce Grove, 962-8995, horizonstage.com • ITX - Tex on the Square, 9930-102 Ave., 420-1757, 1-877-888-1757, itxonthequare.com • TM - Ticket Master, 451-8000, ticketmaster.ca

**RED STAR 10354 Jasper Ave. — The Junior Brown:**  
Tue-Di 10:30-11:30  
**SAVOY BAR 10401-82 Ave., 438-0373 — Hours:**  
Mon-Sat 4 pm - 2 am  
**STARLINE ROOM 10030-102 St., 428-1099 — Live music Thu-Sat, Saturdays @ The Temple Oh Snaps w/ Degree & All Out Di. Visit starline-room.ca for show info.**  
**TANTRIA MYSTIC EXOTICA LOUNGE 10147**  
Saskatchewan Dr., 434-8699 — Mon — Thu & Sun 5 pm - Midnight, Fri & Sat 5 pm - 2 am  
Dancing 10 pm - 2 am  
**THE ATTIC 10407-82 Ave., 433-1969 — Wed-Hi-ll Night** Thu Student Night  
**THE ELEPHANT & CASTLE ON WHITE 10314-82 Ave., 439-4545 — Open 7 days a week.** Info: www.theelephantandcastle.com  
**THE ROOST 10345-104 St., 426-5130 — The** Gorgeous Hostesses Hoote McCoob, drop kings & queens, amateur strip lass Thu of the month Fri All request dance party w/ DJ Jazzy & rotating hosts Sat Always Like New Year's Eve, DJ Jazzy upstairs (new music), DJ Don downstairs (retro) Sun Flashback Soundz w/ hostesses Miss Bianca, Vanity Fair & guests. Hours Sun & Thu, 8 pm - 2 am, Fri & Sat 8 pm - 4 am, closed Mon-Wed. Info: www.karaochebclub.com  
**TWILIGHT AFTERHOURS 10018-105 St., 590-1792 — Fri 2 am - 7 am Sat 2 am - 8 am**  
**UNION HALL Argyle & 99th, 702-0318 — Thu-Hi-ball specials Fri Ladies Night Sat T N A Saturday**  
**VELVET UNDERGROUND 10030-102 St., 428-7827 — Wed-Panic w/ The JBots Thu NRMWS WICM w/ DJ Nix 7 The Road Down, monthly requests by Substrata, death glitch hop, dubstep, breaks, hip-hop, dancehall, reggae, drum & bass & mashup**  
**WUNDERBAR HOFBRÄUHAUS 8120 101 St., 436-2286 — Tue-Hopster Twister Wed Round One live DJ Tono & Avenir Brown Thu Alternating jam sessions w/ Tigger Agency Fri Sat Local DJs & bands Sun Reggae & co w/ after hours & rave styles**  
**TRANCE DANCERS 10028-102 St. (rear entrance) — Fri, Sat 1 am - 8 pm Fri Foundational 2000s - hard house/garage/breaks w/ Ryan Wade, Steven M, Bree, Dragon, Toronto Set Release Saturdays - funky/electic/hard house/techno w/ Luke Morrison, Tony Donahue, Donoran, Trystan, Brian Davis, Hector Castro, Kristoff, Tiamia J., Travis Malleson**

## TOP 40

**180° RESTAURANT & NIGHTCLUB 10730-107 Ave., 414-0223 — Every** Thu Hip-Hop & open mic Fri Sexy Friday Every Sat Dance Hall reggae night by Generation 11 Vex & DJ Pochoe w/ C-Unti Sound Mon-Sat, 12 noon-3 am  
**BILLIARD CLUB #200, 10505-82 Ave., 432-0335 — Open Mon-Sun**  
**CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd. — Mon live jazz w/ Jonny McK, Tue Open stage, Wed Karaoke, Thu live acoustic w/ Si George, Fri-Sat live bands, Sun open stage**  
**CELIUS IRISH PUB 10338-109 St., 426-5555 — The** East Coast Kiltan party Fri Caricatures Fridays Sat Big Rock Karaoke  
**CHROME LOUNGE #104, 550 Glenview Rd., 414-1111 — Tue** Karaoke Sat Somo Saturdays  
**THE DOCKS Lansdowne Mall — Thu & Fri Di**  
**EMPIRE BALLROOM Upper level, Phase 2 WEM —**

**SEE a latte MOVIES Every Friday FREE SUFF**

Come to Second Cup on Jasper Ave (10309 Jasper Ave) between 2 and 2:15 pm on Friday. Find the SEE Magazine read and give them the answer or appropriate response to a question or task below. You may not win if you have won a prize from SEE Magazine in the last 30 days. SEE Magazine reserves the right to restrict prizes. Prizes must be claimed in person by the contest entrant. Photo ID may be required.

**Prize:** A double-guest pass to see Into the Wild at the Garneau Theatre.  
**Skill-testing Question:** Into the Wild was filmed in which Alaskan National Park?  
**Prize:** A double guest pass to see Lust, Caution and The Darlingling Limited at the Princess Theatre.  
**Skill-testing Question:** What is the original Chinese title of Lust Caution?

**Fri, Sat & Sun live performances nightly.** Rock, hip hop, house, mashup. Dress code in effect. www.empireballroom.ca  
**FLUID LOUNGE 10888 Jasper Ave, 429-0700 — Mon-Mixer, Wed 10888 Jasper Ave, The Girls Night Tue, Fri Neon Lights hosted by Connected Entertainment, Sat Gone Gold Mash-Up w/ Haman & DJ Kwale. Info: myspace.com/fluid\_lounge**  
**FUNKY BUDDHA 10341-82 Ave. — Tue** Cool Latin Tuesdays, dance lessons at 8 pm  
**GINGER SKI LOUNGE 11506-118 Ave., 426-7111 — Fri & Sat** Rock the Globe weekdays Wed World Wide Wednesdays Thu Hair Price Pub Night  
**H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave., 423-5794 — Tue, Thu, Sat** Sun Karaoke  
**IRON HORSE 8101-102 St., 438-1907 — Fri** DJ Loose Cannon Sat Urban dance party w/ DJ 420  
**KEEP IT SIMPLE CLUB 11720-82 St., 471-4705 — Fri & Sat** Clean & sober, dances 8 pm-12:30 am, 42 cover  
**RATT 7th Floor SUB bldg, U of A Campus — Sat** Athletics night w/ DJ Kriegs  
**SPORTSMEN INLINE & ROLLER SKATING DISCO 3710-104 St., 427-6336 — Tue** RETRO NIGHT hosted by Shode Fri Top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Jom Skater ShD Sat 1-5 pm & 7 pm-midnight, top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Special K & Shode Sat 1-5 pm, top 40 Request w/ a mix of Retro & Disco hosted by Special K. Special for Birthday parties. Info: www.sportsmen-club.com  
**STOLL'S 10368-82 Ave., 437-2293 — Sun** House Arrest w/ Johnny Dangenta & Andy Inacio w/ guests Wed Wild Cherry Wednesdays w/ Tipwits, Residant Funk, Steve Velocity, Fusion  
**STONEHOUSE PUB 11026 Jasper Ave., 420-0448 — Fri & Sat** DJ Olay  
**SUITE 49 8227-102 St., 439-6969 — Wed - Sat** 70s & 80s dance  
**THE BANK ULTRA LOUNGE 10765 Jasper Ave, 590-7939 — The** Salsa Style Thursdays Fri Connected Fridays, local house & international guest DJs  
**THE DOCKS Lansdowne Mall, 476-DOCK — Fri** Red Fridays, Military appreciation night Sat Saturday Night live, live bands Tue Karaoke  
**THE FOX PUB 10125-109 St., 990-0680 — Fri & Sat** DJ retro tunes for everyone Sun live local music  
**THE TRAT 10320-102 Ave., 428-3733 — Sat** Sorely Saturday Tue Karaoke Night  
**THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9020 McKinnay Ave., 438-0840 — Thu-Di** Slimshots & U/I Jord  
**THE ONE ON WHITE/URBAN LOUNGE 10544-82 Ave., 437-7659 — Thu-Sun & Wed** live bands. www.urbanlounge.ca  
**THE PARKER PARKOUT 10214-82 Ave., 438-0840 — Thu-Di** Slimshots & U/I Jord  
**THE PLANE DINGE** presents Hi Thursdays, breaks electro house spun by III residents.

## COUNTRY

**COOK COUNTY SALOON 8010-103 St., 432-COOK (2645) — Thu-Sat** and special event nights, open at 8 pm. Ladies in free before 10 pm. Info: www.cookcountysaloon.com  
**COYBOWS COUNTRY SALOON 11800-180 St.,**

481-8739 — Country/Top 40, dress code in effect, 55 cover charge  
**OL CITY ROADHOUSE Jasper Ave & 107 St. — Info:** www.olycityroadhouse.com  
**WILD WEST SALOON 12912-50 St., 476-3388 — Wed** Free beginners dance lessons 8 - 9:30 pm  
**Wed** Free intermediate dance lessons 7:30 - 9:30 pm

## CONCERTS

**ANDREW MANZIE & RICHARD EGGER — Nov 10, 8 pm** Convocation Hall, U of A. Long-time musical collaborators Manzie (violin) and Egger (guitar) perform an intimate recital in the home of Sir Charles Hubert Hastings Poy. Presented by the Edmonton Chamber Music Society. Tickets \$30, \$20, seniors \$5, students, available at TIX, The Gramophone, or at the door.  
**AROSE WOODS' CHIEF: CHANTICLEER — Nov 24, 8 pm** McDougall United Church, 10025-101 St. Tickets \$15, \$10 student or TIX, or \$15/\$12 at the door  
**BOB JAHNG CD PRELUDE — Nov 10, 8 pm** Bonnie Doon Community Hall, 9240-93 St. Fundraising for Jahng's newest CD project, featuring performances by Down to the Wood, Terry Morrison, Jessica Hene, Darren Frank, and Bob Jahng with Mark Ladouceur, Dwayne Hymel, and Don Marotte. Tickets \$15 advance at Myhr's & Blackbird Music, \$17 at the door  
**BRAHMS NIGHT — Nov 23, 8 pm** Convocation Hall, U of A. Featuring Jasmin Lin, piano, Marlene Heller, cello, and Patricia Tap, piano. Tickets \$20, \$15 student, at TIX or at the door.  
**CHICKADYAS — Nov 24, 8 pm** Soufminster School of Music, 10740-19 Ave. Tickets \$15 at TIX or at the door.  
**COMPADRES — Nov 10, 7:30 pm** Arden Theatre, St. Albert. Tickets \$30 at ARD  
**CONCORDIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Nov 17, 8 pm** Robert Fidler Student Centre, Concordia Campus, 735 & 112 Ave. Program includes Walton's Crown Royal, Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, and Edward Lasker's Symphony Espagnole. Tickets \$8-310, \$25 (family) at TIX or at the door.  
**DA CAMERA SINGERS, SONG OF THE SEA — Nov 10, 8 pm** First Baptist Church, 10031-109 St. Conducted by John Brough. Tickets \$15, \$10 student/senior at TIX or at the door.  
**DUST POETS — Nov 10, 8 pm** Queen Alexandra Hall, 10425 University Ave. Presented by Northern Lights Folk Club. Tickets at TIX, Myhr's, and Acoustic Music.  
**EDMONTON JAZZ ORCHESTRA — Nov 18, 8:30 pm** U of A. Tickets \$15. Featuring the new Missa Brevis n. 8, Barber's Agnus Dei, and other works that invoke the spirit. Tickets \$18, \$12 student/senior, \$10 high flyers at the door.  
**GUY DAVIS & HIS HIGH FLYING ROCKETS — Nov 16, 7:30 pm** Festival Place, 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park. Tickets \$28-\$32 at the Festival Place box office, 449-3378, or at TIX.  
**INTERNATIONAL QUIZ NIGHT — Nov 11, 7:30 pm** Festival Place, 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park. Brian Gora, O'Gara, Gene Carroll, and Miguel de la Boudie. Tickets \$28-\$32 at the Festival Place box office, 449-3378, or at TIX.  
**LASERSPECTACULAR & THE MUSIC OF PINK FLOYD — Nov 9, 7 & 10 pm** Arden Theatre, St. Albert. Tickets \$35 at ARD  
**MADWAI BENEFIT — Nov 16, 7 pm** Sherwood Park Alliance Church, 1011 Clover Blvd. Featuring Samantha Schultz, Pappassteel Steel Drum Band, Soulyah Fyfe, and The Sky Island public school Honor Choir. Proceeds benefit the African Sky Art Institute. Tickets \$20 at TIX.  
**MICHAEL CLEVELAND & FLAMEKEEPER — Nov 17, 8 pm** Royal Alberta Museum Theatre, 12845-102 Ave. Presented by the Northern Bluesgrass Circle Music Society. Tickets \$18 NBGMS members, \$20 non-members. TIX, Myhr's, Acoustic Music, Soulyah Fyfe, or at the door. Info: www.bluesgrassnorth.com  
**PRO CO CO-ANIMA: MALE VOICES, THE NEW TRADITION — Nov 11, 2 pm** Winspear Centre, Church Square. Featuring Roland Mejean, Bombel, and choir members from area high schools joining male members of Pro Coro Canada. Tickets at WIN, 428-1414  
**ROY ROGERS & NORRIS BUFFALO — Nov 9, 7:30 pm** Festival Place, 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park. Tickets \$28-\$32 at the Festival Place box office, 449-3378, or at TIX.  
**SYLVIA TYSON — Nov 10, 7:30 pm** Festival Place, 100 Festival Way, Sherwood Park. Tickets \$28-\$32 at the Festival Place box office, 449-3378, or at TIX.  
**THE THEATRE OF EARLY MUSIC — Nov 21, 8 pm** Convocation Hall, U of A. Featuring special guest soprano Dame Emma Kirkby, w/ tenor Daniel Taylor and Montreal's Theatre of Early Music performing vocal works from the Baroque era. Tickets \$30, \$20 student, \$5 student at TIX, The Gramophone, or at the door.  
**WEDNESDAYS AT NOON MUSIC SERIES — McDougall United Church, 101 St. & McDonald Drive** Every Wednesday McDougall offers a free lunch hour of music, bring a bag lunch and some friends, coffee and tea available.

**OPEN STAGE**  
**THURSDAY**  
**BACKDRAUGHT PUB 8307-99 St., 420-9200 — Open** mic 7 pm, everyone welcome  
**BUND PUB 32 St. Anne St., St. Albert — Mooshed** jam w/ The Rauli Brothers and friends, 8:11 pm  
**DUSTERS PUB 10743-124 St. — Open** stage hosted by The Mary Thomas Band  
**EDDIE SHORTS 10731-124 St., 452-1168 — Open** mic 9 pm  
**J.R. GRILL & BAR 3901-106 St., 436-4403 — Live** open stage hosted by The Shamelas Flugs, 9 pm-1 am. All styles welcome, 8-9 pm instrument, drums & PA provided  
**NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR 10354 Jasper Ave., 425-9790 — Open** stage 8 pm, Open mic 9 pm, instrument, poetry, art  
**NORTH GLENORA COMMUNITY LEAGUE 13535-109A Ave. — Jam** session 7 pm, hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Association. Info: Ray 437-9417

## SUNDAY

**BLUES ON WHITE 10329-82 Ave., 439-5058 — Afternoon** blues jam 8 - 8:30 pm  
**THE CARROT ARTS COFFEEHOUSE 9125-118 Ave., 441-1580 — Music** and poetry open mic, 7-10 pm. Direct road coffee served  
**CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 — Showcase** open stage hosted by Simon Bennett and the Castle Rockers, 3-8 pm  
**CORONA COFFEE STATION Jasper Ave. & 108 St., 448-1051 — 3rd** Sat, visual arts, art & poetry night. Musicians, visual artists, spoken word, poets and dancers welcome. Info: eshoni.1@hotmail.com  
**MORANGO'S TEA CAFE 10118-79 St. — 7 pm - 1 am**, hosted by Tommy. Info: www.morango-teacafe.com  
**STRATHEART PUB 9514-87 St. — 2nd** Sat, hosted by the Royal Tease, 5-9 pm. Followed by karaoke  
**CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 — Open** jam hosted by Dave Barry and Gator Crown & Anchor Pub 15277 Castledowns Rd., 472-7696 — Open jam & auditions to play at

**CAR, 3 pm**  
**DUSTERS PUB 4602-118 Ave. — Open** stage hosted by The Mary Thomas Band  
**EDDIE SHORTS 10731-124 St., 452-1168 — Live** jam with Rob Taylor, 9 pm. Instruments and gear provided  
**HOOHAUGANZ PUB 10704-124 St., 452-1168 — Afternoon** jam hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny. HUBBERT'S 7601-115 St., 436-1161 — 7-10 pm, hosted by Rhea March, www.hubberts.ca  
**NEWCASTLE PUB & GRILL 6108-90 Ave., 490-1999 — Open** stage hosted by Willie James & Crowded, 3 pm - 5 pm  
**O'BRYEN'S IRISH PUB 10616-82 Ave., 414-6766 — Open** stage hosted by Joe Bird, 9 pm  
**TEDDY'S LOUNGE & TAPERY 11361 Jasper Ave., 482-0991 — Open** mic 9 pm  
**THE OVERDIE 6104-104 St., 439-9485 — "Anything** Goes" afternoon acoustic jam w/ The Shufflehound, 1:30-5 pm

## MONDAY

**LIP'S PUB 23 Akins Dr., St. Albert, 460-9100 — Mon** Open stage hosted by LIP's house band  
**PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10860-57 Ave. — 7 pm** Acoustic instrumental old time fiddle jam hosted by the Wild Rose Old Time Fiddlers Society. Info: Wilby, 474-5270  
**THE IVORY CLUB 2940 Calgary Trail, 465-6800 — Open** stage w/ Myra Vinko, 8 pm.

## TUESDAY

**BLACKSOP CAFE 15120a Stony Plain Rd., 481-7748 — 8 pm - 11 pm** Talent Show Tuesday, hosted by Liam Trimble and Roy Gary. Live, literature, poetry and musical acts welcome.  
**CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd., 458-8766 — Mooshed** freestyle jam, 8-9 pm, 1 am  
**Hosted** by Mark Amador, Dale Collins, and Noel 'Big Cat' Mackenzie

## WEDNESDAY

**CAFE BRITT 1-20 McLeod Ave, Spruce Grove — Every** Wed 7-9 pm. Hosted by Paul LeGrove  
**EDDIE SHORTS 10731-124 St., 452-1168 — Open** mic 9 pm, all styles welcome, 8-9 pm instrument, drums & PA provided  
**HOOHAUGANZ PUB 10704-124 St., 452-1168 — 7:30 pm**, hosted by Rock 'n Roll Kenny  
**LITTLE FLOWER OPEN STAGE Fiddler's Road, 8906-99 St. — 8 pm**, Hosted by Brian Gregg, 8-9 pm, all styles welcome, 8-9 pm instrument, drums & PA provided  
**THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9020 McKinnay Ave., St. Albert, 458-0860 — Jam** session 9 pm, hosted by Danny Floyd  
**PLEASANTVIEW HALL 10860-57 Ave. — Bluesgrass** jam session 7:30 pm hosted by the Northern Bluesgrass Circle Music Society. Info: 434-5997  
**STEEPS TEE LOUNGE College Place, 111-16-82 Ave. — Acoustic** open mic every Tue, live w/ the month Spotlight Word open mic. Email: Jessie at jillbert@gmail.com by Mondays to book a spot that week.

## KARAOKE

**B-STREET BAR 11818-111 Ave., 414-0545 — Wed, Sat** w/ Brad Scott  
**BUND PUB 32 St. Anne St., St. Albert 418-6332 — Karaoke** every Wed & Fri w/ Shelley  
**BUD'S LOUNGE Capilano Mall, 98 Ave. & 50 St. — Fri & Sat, 9 pm - 1:30 am** w/ Mr. Entertainment  
**CASTLEDOWN'S PUB 16753-100 St. — Tue, 9 pm - 1 am**, w/ Off-Key Entertainment  
**CASTLEROCK PUB 570 St. Albert Rd. — Wed, 9 pm-2 am** All Fired Up Karaoke  
**CHIBBY'S 8304-144 Ave., 478-1770 — Thu, Fri, Sat 9:30 pm-1:30 am** Hosted by Jimmy  
**CHRISTOPHER'S PARTY PUB 2021 Millbourne Rd. — Tue, 9 pm w/ Sonja/Prosound Productions** Info: call Lisa or Kelly, 462-6565  
**CHROME LOUNGE 104, 550 Glenview Rd., 414-1111 —**

**RED MEAT** extra chunky ethereal emesis from the secret files of max cannon

O Heavenly Father... we raise our voices in praise for your gift of this glorious day.

Listen, I hate to rain on your parade, but I've got an alien armada headed your way to blow the planet to bits.

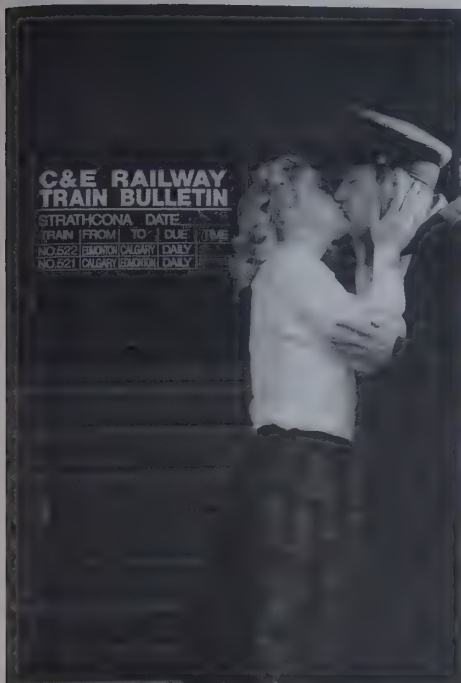
What...??

Yeah, I told L. Ron Hubbard about it a few years back. Uh, didn't he give you all the message on that?

Probably, but I'm more of a Philip K. Dick guy.

Oh, definitely. Me, too.





**C&E RAILWAY TRAIN BULLETIN**  
 STRATHCONA DATE  
 TRAIN FROM TO DUE TIME  
 NO.622 (EMERALD) CALGARY DAILY  
 NO.621 (CALGARY) STRATHCONA DAILY

# LETTERS IN WARTIME

In honour of Remembrance Day, RABBITrePUBc remounts the 2006 Fringe hit for two shows only, Nov. 12 at 2 pm & 8 pm at Azimuth Theatre

1111 — Thu, 10 pm — 2 am Duke Boyz Entertainment w/ Phil  
 CROWN & ANCHOR PUB 15277 Castledowns Rd., 472-7696 — Thu 9 pm Ha Ha Off Comedy, 10:30 pm Karaoke  
 CLIFF'S PUB & PANTRY 8214-175 St., 487-8887 — Sat & Sun w/ Hosted by Krista, Liquid Entertainment  
 DOYLE'S PUB 151 Ave. & Victoria Trail — Fri, 10 pm-2 am w/ Cathy, Sat 10 pm-2 am w/ Ewan  
 DUSTER'S PUB 6402-118 Ave. — Sat Karaoke  
 ECCO PUB 9635-66 Ave. — Mon, 9 pm w/ Sonia/Prosound Productions  
 ELEMENT LOUNGE 10807-106 Ave. 420-1530 — Wed, 9 pm  
 FORT GAMING LOUNGE & SPORTS BAR 13403 Fort Rd., 466-2916 — Fri, 9 pm-1 am. Hosted by Angel How

FOX PUB 10125-109 St. 990-0680 — Tue, 9 pm Drink specials all night  
 FUNKY BUDDHA 10241-82 Ave. — Sun, 9:30 pm, w/ Mr. Entertainment  
 H2O SPORTS BAR & LOUNGE 10044-82 Ave. 433-5794 — Tue, Thu, Sat & Sun  
 HAWKEYES TOO 10044-102 St. — Fri, 8 pm: Hot Karaoke Productions  
 HILLTOP PUB 8220-106 Ave., 490-7359 — Wed, 9:30 pm  
 HOOGANZ PUB 10704-124 St., 452-1168 — Thu & Fri, hosted by Krista, Liquid Entertainment  
 JUGS PUB 7450-82 Ave. 465-4046 — Sat, 9 pm  
 KEEP IT SIMPLE (KIS) CLUB 11720-82 St. 471-4705 — Tue & Sun, 6-10 pm. Not on 2nd Tue of the month  
 L.B.'S PUB 111-23 Alms Dr., St. Albert, 460-9100

— Tue w/ The Karaokeus, 9:30 pm — 1 am  
 METRO BILLIARDS 10250-106 St., 990-0704 — Tue, 10 pm — 2 am w/ Lounges Lizard Ent  
 MOJO'S Fort Sask. Best Western Hotel 10115-88 Ave. Fri, 9:30 pm w/ Sonia/Prosound Productions  
 MONA USA PUB 9606-118 Ave. 477-7752 — Thu-Sat, 9:30 pm-2 am, Sat w/ Cathy  
 NIKITA'S 10162-100A St. 414-0065 — Tue & Thu 7 pm-midnight, hosted by Shelley  
 ON THE ROCKS 11740 Jasper Ave. 462-4267 — Mon, 9:30 pm, Drink the Bar Dry Karaoke w/ Scott Parsons, Mr. Entertainment  
 OVERDRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD PUB & GRILL 6104-104 St. 988-5457 — Sat, 9 pm. Hosted by Jenny Joy  
 PEPPERS 320 Westmount Centre, 113 Ave. & 135 St. 451-8022 — Thu, 9:30 pm-1:30 pm w/ Gord from Stone Rock Entertainment  
 PLAYBACK PUB 594 Hermitage Rd. 475-2309 — Thu 8 pm, hosted by Cathy  
 RAMADA SOUTH 5359 Calgary Trail — Thu 8 pm, Colin & Ed Music, Trivia, Sun 8 pm — Midnight w/ Colin & Ed, Almost Famous  
 RATT UNUSUAL COMUS — Tues 9 pm, Colin & Ed Music, Trivia, Wed 8 pm, w/ Colin, Almost Famous  
 ROSARIO'S PUB & KARAOKE CENTRAL 11715 108 Ave. 447-4727 — 7 days a week, 7 pm  
 ROSIE'S BAR & GRILL 10475-80 Ave. 439-7211 — Thu — Sat 9:30 pm — 1:30 am  
 ROSIE'S LOUNGE 10604-101 St. 423-3499 — Mon, 9 pm, Trivia Tue — Sat, 9 pm Karaoke  
 SCHOLARS QUAD 131113-87 Ave. — Sun & Tue, 9:30 pm w/ Mr. Entertainment  
 SHERLOCK HOLMES Bourbon Street, WHEM — Sun, 9 pm — 1 am w/ Mr. Entertainment  
 SILVER BULLET 4703-97 St. 437-6203 — Every Tue, Karaoke, cocktail  
 SILVER MARTINI 10546-156 St. 484-9753 — Thu & Sat, 8 pm w/ Prosound Productions  
 SMITTY'S NaviGate Mall, South side entrance — Sat 9 am, 478-7731  
 SMITTY'S WESTMOUNT Grand Rd. & 111 Ave. — Thu, 9:30 pm — 1 am  
 SMOKE 'N' JO'S 615 Hermitage Road, 476-6122 — Thu, 9:30 pm — 1:30 am, Karaoke, Idol with Lisa Marie  
 SPORTSWORLD NINE & ROLLER SKATING DISCO 11704-101 St. 472-5336 — Tue, Fri & Sat 7 pm — 12 am Sat & Sun, 1 pm — 5 pm  
 STRATHCREAK PUB 9514-87 St. — 2nd Sat, 9 pm  
 THE FRAT 10220-102 Ave. 428-3733 — Every Tue, 9 pm w/ Peter from Mr. Entertainment  
 THE NEST NaviGate Mall — Every Wed, 4:30 pm — 8 pm  
 THE NEW TAPHOUSE 9020 McKinney Ave. 311 Albert 458-0860 — Sat  
 Tue hosted by Jay & Mr. Entertainment  
 THORSBY HOTEL Thorsby, AB — Sat 9:30 pm, 1:30 am w/ Sonia/Prosound  
 TRANSIT HOTEL 12720 Fort Rd. — Thu 11 pm w/ Prosound Productions  
 WINSTON'S PUB 9016-132 Ave. 457-4883 — Wed, Fri & Sat, 9 pm w/ Crystal  
 X-WRECKS 10143-50 St. — Wed 7:30 pm, 11:30 pm w/ Sonia/Prosound

# EVENTS

ART & SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM — Nov 9-10 Bernard Smith Hall, U of A Hospital, 8440-112 St. Scholars and thinkers from art, science, humani-

ties, and technology sectors join to explore new places and ground. Themes include 'Mysteries Unfolding, Science: Art & the Body', 'All in the Mind: Learning, Aesthetics, and Ways of Knowing', and 'Manifestations: The Tangible Cosmos'. Free, registration required. Call 497-2336  
 ARTS MARKET — Saturdays, 10 am — 2 pm The Corral Arts Coffeehouse 9351 118 Ave. Artists and artisans from the community and beyond sharing unique gifts with local lovers. Info: www.theccorral.ca  
 C-JAM BIG BAND DANCE — Nov 10, Dutch Canadian Centre 1312-141 St. 8 pm-midnight. Get in the groove and dance! Tickets \$15 at the door. Info: www.cjambigband.com  
 CARROT CHRISTMAS ARTS BAZAAR — Nov 23 & 10 pm, Nov 24 10 am-10 pm, The Corral Arts Coffeehouse, 9351-118 Ave. 471-1580. Artists gifts made in Edmonton, direct trade coffee. Info: www.theccorral.ca  
 EDMONTON HUMAN RIGHTS AWARDS — Nov 28, 7 pm, Transalta Arts Barn, 10330-84 Ave. John Humphrey Centre for Peace & Human Rights, and the City of Edmonton proudly present the inaugural Edmonton Human Rights Awards ceremony, with keynote speaker Akbar Ganji, and reception. Awards will be given to individuals, business, non-profit organizations & youth, to celebrate their achievements & successes in the field of human rights education. Info: www.hrcentre.org  
 THE GATHERING: CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS OF INDIGENOUS ARTS — Nov 30 5-8 pm, Myer Horowitz Theatre, 508-116A. Celebrate the magnificence and diversity of Aboriginal and Indigenous cultures at this black-tie gala, featuring performances by Auzi, Wayne Tavalala, Jared Sowan, Mats, Child Life Jugglers, Kasei, Alesandra Dorn, Shana Ballant, and Kamei. Sun. Tickets at TAI, info: www.artso.ca  
 GUERRILLA BOUTIQUE — Nov 10 & 24, 2-10 pm, The ARTery, 8535 Jasper Ave. A bi-weekly market showcasing local fashion designers, crafts, and artists. Handmade clothing and delightful add-ons that appeal to a hip and urban crowd, no imports or re-sold items. Info: guerrillaboutique@artso.ca  
 HARGREAVE HOUSE LIVE & SILENT AUCTION — Nov 17, 10 am — 2 pm, Hargreave Centre, 10450 116 St. 1st floor, close to 8 pm. Entertainment by Dan Skatun Trio and Terry McDade. Featuring works for auction by Alberta's best contemporary and historical artists, including Robert Sinclair, Peter van Tiesebroek, Liz Ingram, Jonathan Kowalen, and more. Tickets \$25 advance, \$30 at the door. Info: www.hargreavehouse.ca or call 466-4186  
 HEAD OF THE CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER — Nov 12 6-9 pm, Head of Time, 815 Saddleback Rd. Great gift giving ideas, holiday treats and beverages, plus up to 40% off select items, on inside kids at the store. Info: 436-0032  
 HOLIDAY SHOP & SHOP — Nov 16, 5-9 pm, Nov 17, 11 am-2 pm, and Nov 18, 11 am-2 pm, Transalta Arts Barn, 10330-84 Ave. Not your Granny's Christmas card show, definitely no pine cone art or candy cane reindeer! Only cool, interactive, stylish fashion, accessories, and home decor, all made by local artist, and designers. Proceeds benefit the Zebra Child Protection Centre. Info: www.stopastopshop.com  
 JUST CHRISTMAS — Nov 23 5:30-9 pm, Nov 24, 9:30 am-4 pm, Alberta Arts Community Hall, 9210-118 Ave. A global fair trade market, find unique gifts and support social justice. Enjoy

food, entertainment, and fair trade documentaries. Info: www.justchristmas.org or call 669-0524  
 KARA PIJAMA BRUNCH WITH SANTA — Nov 25, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Fairview Hotel, 10644 Counting down to Christmas and raising funds for KARA's Family Resource Centre, families can come dressed in PJs in enjoy live entertainment, silent auction, and visit with Santa. Info: www.kara.ca  
 MARKETPLACE AT CALLINGWOOD — Sundays 10 am-3 pm, and Wednesdays 12-5 pm, Corner of 178 St. & 65 Ave. Over 100 vendors offering the finest fresh foods, jewelry, and more. Info: www.marketplaceatcallingwood.com  
 METS WEEK — Nov 11-17 Celebrate the rich and proud history of the Mets in Edmonton and across Alberta. Planned events throughout the city including the Louis Riel Commemorative Ceremony in the Legislature, Nov 16 at 11. Visit www.albertamets.ca for a complete list of Mets Week events.  
 RIVER CITY ROCK OUT — Nov 11, Verber Underground, 10030-102 St. In support of the RiverCity RoundUp, a night of live music featuring local talent and the charities they support. Performances by the Uncas, 7and7s, and guests. Proceeds go towards the Rick Hansen Foundation. Edmonton SPCA, and the Heart & Stroke Foundation. Tickets \$10 in advance at 103 Blackbird Mowat, or Megaphones, \$15 at the door.  
 TEN DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD — Nov 10, doors at 7 pm, Strathcona Community League Lounge, 10139-87 Ave., upstairs. Marking the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution 1917. Program includes address by Jason Mann, editor of Rebel Youth Magazine, dramatic reading of Tim Buck's writings on Canada and the Russian revolution, Red Must with Natre Dame de Bonnes choir and the People's Party. Tickets \$11. Sponsored by the Communist Party of Alberta. Info: 465-7893  
 TIBETAN-BUDDHIST LAMA H.E. AYANG RINPOCHE — Nov 21, 7 pm, Westmount Community League, 10970-127 St. Public talk with visiting Buddhist master and Tibetan Lama H.E. Ayang Rinpoche. Admission by donation. Also offering a series of Tibetan prayers and blessings Nov 22-25, \$150 for full series, or \$80 for weekend only. Info: 451-7964 or metawest@shaw.ca  
 WHISTENOTE POTTERY GUILD CHRISTMAS SHOW & SALE — Nov 28, 11 am-5 pm, Bellevue Mall, 7308-112 Ave. Unique clay works for sale, from functional to Roku.  
 WINTER WINE FESTIVAL — Nov 23 7-10 pm, Liquor Select, 8924-149 St. Fundraiser for the Strathcona Youth Society, featuring wine samplings from around the world, guided by knowledgeable wine reps, plus a silent auction of items donated by local businesses. Tickets \$40 or 2 for \$75 at Liquor Select. Info: 481-6868

# EXHIBITS

ALLIED ARTS COUNCIL, 455 King St., Space Grove 962-0664 — Until Nov 24 Fall Fantasy in Alberta, and Living Planet Macro-Micro Connections, by Hiroshi Shimazaki and Doug Bray. Info: www.alliedartscentre.ca  
 ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL, 10166-106 St. 488-6611 ext 221 — Until Dec 8, Influences, Inspirations, and Innovations: a juried exhibition by the Edmonton Rug Hookers Guild. Info:




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 Other cities  
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 Call us 1-800-999-9999  
 Nightline PERSONALS  
 Edmonton UPI MEDIA CODE 1754  
**780-665-9565**  
 1-900-561-5555 | Mobile Pay, text "SCORE" to 96669  
 225/lines 15.00/line







**DATAROCK**  
Norway's pop-rock superstars in sweatsuits. Nov. 15 @ The Pawn Shop.

**FORWARD THINKERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Tuesdays, 7 p.m. Stratcona County Building, 2001 Sherwood Drive, Sherwood Park. Build your self-confidence and communications skills. Info: 922-3835.

**FRENCH CONVERSATION** — Thursdays, Alliance Française, #202, 8827 Rue Marie-Anne, Gabyville, Info: Godfrey, 469-0399.

**FRENCH MEETUP** — Informal conversation group, all levels of French speakers welcome. Info: French meetup.com/236 or call 720-5169.  
**GREAT EXPEDITIONS, HOSTEL TRAVEL** — 2nd Mon every month, 7:30 p.m. Hostelling International, 10647 81 Ave. Everyone is welcome. For pre-natalisation schedule or more information call Sylvia at 454-6216 or 455-6741.

**HP MAMAS MEET-UP GROUP** — A group of young mothers and their babies meet several times a week for activities and attend events together. Free to join, plenty of friends to be made. Info: hippamamasmeetup.com/151/.

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** The Room, 10345-104 St. — 2nd Thu of each month, 8 p.m. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or go to: groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton.illusions.

**IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB** — 2nd & 4th Thu of the month, 8 p.m. Allendale Community Hall, 106 St. Informative, entertaining presentations, speakers, workshops, outings, monthly and year-end competitions. Photographic enthusiasts of all levels welcome. For further info see: www.imagesab.ca or call Sheila 469-9776.

**INNOVATORS' NETWORKING CLUB** — Tuesdays, 11:30 am - 1 pm. Café Select, 109 St & 104 Ave. Info: email kelly.flouber@bdc.ca or call 495-7291.

**JUBILEE TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Tuesdays, 7 p.m. ABC Country Restaurant, 12707-140 Ave. Gain confidence & hone your communication skills one-on-one or with groups. Info: www.jubileetm.com

**NORWOOD TOASTMASTERS CLUB** 10245 Kingsway Ave. (new location) — Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. Improve public speaking & communication skills. Info: 424-2707, 456-3934, or www.norwoodtoastmasters.org

**SCREENWRITER'S CIRCLE** Orinda Armoury, 9722-102 St., 429-1671 — Every 2nd Tue, 7 p.m. Call 429-1671 or visit FAVA.ca

**SUPPORT GROUP FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES** — Weekly drop-in meetings, providing resources and information on self-esteem, mental health, employment, etc. Men are welcome to attend. Info: 496-5930

**TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY** — Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Allendale Community League, 6330-105A St. Get weight loss support and information. First meeting is free. Info: TOPS4900@hotmail.com

**TOUTRETE SYNDROME SUPPORT** — 1st Wed every month (Oct-Nov), 7 p.m. meeting for adults and parents of TS kids. Academy of King Edward, 8525 - 101 St., North door. Info: 1-866-824-9764.

**UPWARD BOUND TOASTMASTERS CLUB** — Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. (Rm 40), Norquest College, 10215-106 St. Learn to be a better speaker, listener, and overall communicator, all at your own pace. Info: email odsmas@telus.net, or call Roger at 454-3720, or Theresa at 489-4096

**WEST-END TOASTMASTER CLUB "COMMUNICATION AND LEADERSHIP"** Jasper Place Library, 9010-156 St. — Tuesdays, 6:45-9 p.m. Communication involves listening skills, giving appropriate feedback and public speaking. Join

the friendly environment of two personal growth and mutual support during two-hour weekly meetings. Info: 495-5424.

**WOW-Wild on Words** — We all have something to say, amateurs and professionals alike. Let this creative writing process guide you into self-discovery. Meetings bi-monthly, Sun 4-6 pm. Three Bannock Cafe, Church & Square. First visit free. Info: feelgoodwellin2007@gmail.com

**YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE** — 2nd Fri every month, 5 p.m. Remedy Café, 8631-109 St. For discussion topics and suggested readings, go to: www.facebook.com/group.phpgid=3559215104

## ACTIVISM

**ACTIVIST AGENDA** — An online newsletter resource for activist related events in Edmonton, with up-to-date information on sustainable practices, networking, and active organizations in the city. Supplied and maintained by Earth's General Store (10832-82 Ave. upstairs, 439-8723). Go to: www.egs.ca, info also available in-store.

**ANARCHIST READING CIRCLE DISCUSSION GROUP** FAB, lounge at bottom of stairway, U of A Campus, 114 St. & 89 Ave. — Sundays, 4 p.m. Meet for critical discussion of assigned anarchist readings, the theory and practice of anarchism and current international and local events. Current readings available at: www.aoy-gensmith.com/~arc

**BIKE WORKS** — Fix your own bike! Edmonton Bicycle Commuter's bike works is entirely run by volunteers. Hours vary by season, please call ahead: 433-2453. Full organization info at: www.edmontonbikes.ca

**COUNCIL OF CANADIANS** — Every 3rd Wed of the month. An independent, public interest organization that works to promote economic justice, renew democracy and assist Canadian sovereignty. Info: 429-4500

**EDMONTON SMALL PRESS ASSOCIATION** — Every 2nd Wed, 7 p.m. ESPA is an activist arts organization with members from 32 countries. Always seeking socially conscious artists, and production volunteers. Info: 434-9236 or contact@edmontonsmallpress.org

**GETTING ACTIVE FOR 9/11 TRUTH** — Visit: www.edmonton911truth.com for more info

**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD** — 2nd Thu of the month, 7 p.m., Rm. 2-42, Humanities Building, U of A Campus. Meetings are open to the public. Info: edmonton.iww.ca

**MADELINE SANAM FOUNDATION** Faculté Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St. Room 3-18 — 3rd & 4th Sat, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women through programs on economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and African languages. Admission free for members, membership: \$10. Call 490-7332 to register.

**MIND YOUR MATTERS MOVIES** — Mondays, 6-11 pm. Blackout Café 15120A Storey Plain Road. A weekly rotation of underground/documentary films, speakers and discussion groups. Admission by donation.

**PEACE AMBASSADORS INITIATIVE** — Mondays, 5 pm - 7 pm, Education North 4-104, U of A Campus. A youth group that promotes anti-racism & diversity workshops. Info: 425-4644 or www.noart.org

**SIERRA CLUB OF CANADA** — Prairie Chapter works with, and is always seeking, ecologically and socially conscious individuals to build a strong grassroots movement in the Prairies. Info: www.sierraclub.ca/prairie

**SOCIAL JUSTICE MOVIE NIGHT** — 4th Fri each month, Unitarian Church of Edmonton, 10804 119 St. Co-sponsored by the Unitarian Church of Edmonton Social Justice Committee, CESC, and Not Just Tourists. 55 donations or PWYC at the door. Info: njt.edmonton@gmail.com

**TEN DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD** — Nov 10 doors at 7 p.m. Stratcona Community League Lounge, 10139-87 Ave., upstairs. Marking the 90th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution 1917 Program includes address by Jason Mann, editor of Rebel Youth Magazine, dramatic reading of Tim Buck's writings on Canada and the Russian revolution, Red Music with Notre Dame de Bonneschou and the People's Poets. Tickets \$5. Sponsored by the Communist Party of Alberta. Info: 465-7893

**UNESCO COALITION FOR PEACE** — Last Fri every month, 3 pm. Boyle McCauley Health Centre, 2nd Fl Boardroom, 10628-96 St. Info: GreenpeaceCanada, 452-5566

**WOMEN IN BLACK** Stratcona Farmers' Market, 82 Ave. & 103 St. 19th Nov. 10-11 am. An international women's peace and anti-racism group formed by Jewish & Arab women in 1988 opposes violence in all its forms. All women, men and children invited to attend a silent vigil. Info: 435-7051

**YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE** — 2nd Fri every month, 5 pm. Remedy Café, 8631-109 St. For discussion topics and suggested readings, go to: www.facebook.com/group.phpgid=3559215104

## WELLNESS

**CANADIAN NATIVE FRIENDSHIP CENTRE** — 11205-101 St., 479-1999 Offers a range of services for members of the Native community including a free community lunch Fridays on noon, employment & public health information, counselling referrals & one-on-one support, AADAC & Legal Aid referrals, low cost or free beds, housing & clothing referrals. Info: 479-1999

**CLUB LULU** LuluLemon, 10544-82 Ave. — Fun & innovative weekly activities to get you moving. Visit: www.luluLemon.com, call 435-9363 or email: whyte-community@luluLemon.com to register.

**CONSTELLATION** — Every 1st & 3rd Wed, 7 pm 10431-37 Ave. Discover the hidden effects of your family history. Constellation uncovers all the power to turn these burdens into blessings. Info: 781-9162 or constellationcounselling.org

**GENTLE YOGA** Rishya Yoga 9945-87 Ave. — Weekly classes in small group settings and Gendaiyoga (by donation). Enquire about schedules and fees. Info: 432-3363 or www.rishyayoga.com

**KARATE! IT'S A KICK!** — Classes for kids over 10, teens, adult, info: www.mangoswim.com or call 972-5510

**LYVING POSITIVE** Suite 50, 9912-116 St. — Tuesdays, 7-9 pm. A non-profit where PO2 people can discuss & share common issues of concern. A peer-driven AIDS service organization, providing direct support to people living with HIV in Alberta. Info: 488-7668 or edmontonlivingpositive.org

**LOTUS SOUL YOGA YOGA STUDIO** 10518 81 Ave. — Multidisciplinary yoga studio offering drop-in & registered classes in hatha, vinyasa flow, Pilates, yoga for runners, pre-natal, post-natal, men's & me, and partner workshops. All levels welcome. Info: for schedules and pricing, visit: www.lotuslululemon.com, call 434-9642 or email: info@lotuslululemon.com

info@lotuslululemon.com  
**MADELINE SANAM FOUNDATION** Faculté Saint-Jean, 8406-91 St. Room 3-18 — Every third, fourth Sat, 9 am - 5 pm. An organization for the emancipation and autonomy of African women through programs on economy, community radio and community health. Offers training on HIV-AIDS prevention, treatment and harm reduction in French, English and African languages. Admission free for members, membership: \$10. Call 490-7332 or register

**MS ACTIVE NOW #150, 9405-50 St.** — Recreation and Physical Wellness programs. Info: 471-3034

**OPEN YOUR MIND!** 11403-101 St. — Garden Santeen Ling Tibetan Buddhist Meditation Society. Meditation and Buddhist teachings by our resident teacher, Tibetan Buddhist monk, Kunkhe Labrang Dharma. Beginners Tue 7 pm. Intermediate Wed 7 pm. Advanced practices Sun 11 am - 1 pm. Info: 479-0014 www.godan-santening.org

**RAJA YOGA MEDITATION #208** 10132-105 St. — In association with the Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual Organization. For an introductory class, or events go to: www.bksworld.org or call 425-1050

**RIVER VALLEY RUNNERS** — Tuesdays & Thursdays, 5:15-6:45 pm. Riverdale Community Hall, 9231-100 Ave. Coached training for running on 5 km to 100 km. Includes warm-up, valley trails, including warm-up and cool-down. Info: www.mountainrunners.net or call 447-1509

**TOPS: TAKE OFF POUNDS SENSIBLY** — Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 pm. Allendale Community League, 6330-105A St. Get weight loss support and information. First meeting is free. Info: TOPS4900@hotmail.com

**TRANQUILITY MEDITATION** 10502-70 Ave. — Wednesdays 7 pm. Tibetan tradition. Free, beginners welcome. Instruction available. Call Lama Ani Kunsang 633-6157 or go to: www.karmachung.org

**VEGETARIANS OF ALBERTA** — Monthly events, potluck dinners, and newsletter with articles on

## HEALTH &

**JONESIN' CROSSWORD by Matt Jones**

### Don't be a pig

Translations from the original Latin

**ACROSS**  
1 Peaky person  
6 Rough life  
10 Tendency  
14 It gets gunned  
15 It is, in Latin  
16 Menu option sometimes  
17 "Former Heisman winner who now likes coffee?"  
19 Put luggage in a compartment  
20 Prefix for "freak" or "tourist"  
21 Until this point  
22 The sticky stuff  
23 Time period  
28 Grow  
31 "Former Denver Broncos star" who now is doing fine?  
34 Purple salad bar item  
35 Cat food brand named after a queen  
36 Horse wall  
38 Actor Beatty  
39 Tobacco magnate who now stores pickles?  
40 Relative relative  
45 Folk singer Guthrie  
46 Orson of "Hannah Montana"  
49 Notes that are almost as easy as A, B, C  
52 "Jazz songstress who's now a female deer?"  
54 Place for babies  
56 Nightmarish street  
57 Digits after a pi.  
58 Approval  
60 "The Daringest Limited" director Anderson

5 Competition between stores  
6 Salesperson  
7 Helper: abbr.  
8 Tolerated  
9 Provide gratification for  
10 "You're in trouble!"  
11 Computer processor slogan  
12 Fuss  
13 Sky dweller  
14 Oliver Twist's request  
22 Sinatra ex Gardner  
23 Summer party garb  
24 "You're in trouble!"  
25 "We still haven't decided yet"  
27 Author Horatio  
29 Sugary ending  
30 Doctor's deg.  
31 Heart's org.  
33 Clapnet classic  
37 Hole... (The Price is Right) game  
40 Time to save for  
41 Words after "Hmmm."  
42 Ethnomusicologist's deg., maybe  
43 Atlantic Coast clock setting: abbr.

44...juice (milk, to kids)  
47 Spread that's smoked  
48 "Are we there?"  
50 Makes really happy  
51 Mental Health Awareness Month  
53 Dock worker's labor org.  
55 Two, in card games  
59 Playwright O'Casey  
61 Armenia and Estonia, once: abbr.  
62 Suffix meaning "inclined to"  
63 A, on a touchtone keypad  
65 Towel word  
66 Sue Grallon's "... for Evidence"  
67 Diamonds  
68 "... You're a Window Shopper" (Lily Allen parody song)  
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editor@jonesinacrosswords.com

**SOLUTION TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE**

DOWN  
2 BOMBS  
3 INSTRUMENTAL  
4 ASIN  
5 SET  
6 ELGAR  
7 ENTITLED  
8 STABLE  
9 STEREO  
10 HATLESS  
11 ACCEPTED  
12 ANA  
13 AWARD  
14 SHA  
15 OWN  
16 BROS  
17 KLEIN  
18 GABRIEL  
19 ARDRE  
20 THESE  
21 GOAT  
22 ELEVEN  
23 SILENT  
24 TREATMENT  
25 SKYTERMINAL

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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23	24	25		26		27		28			29	30
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62	63				64		65				66	67
69					70						71	
72					73						74	

health, information and compassion, plus much more. Info: [events@volsa.ca](mailto:events@volsa.ca) or go to [www.VoLA.ca](http://www.VoLA.ca).

## READINGS & LECTURES

**ART & POETRY NIGHT** — 3rd Sat every month, Corona Coffee Station, Jasper Ave. & 108 St. A night of music, visual arts, spoken word, poetry and dance. Submissions welcome. Info: 448-1005 or [artslife@bhamath.com](mailto:artslife@bhamath.com).

**INTRODUCTORY BUDDHISM LECTURE** — Nov 21, 7 pm. SGI Edmonton, 1071-107 Ave., 2nd Floor. 30 minute lecture, followed by Q & A period. Info: [sgiedmonton@hotmail.com](mailto:sgiedmonton@hotmail.com).

**JANE AUSTEN SOCIETY** — Nov 10, 2-4 pm. Stanley A. Miller Library, Churchill Square. "Second Chance", a discussion about Austen's final novel *Persuasion*. Beatrice Narey explores how, in the 19th century book with two known endings, the characters often get a chance to learn from experience and to begin. Free, all welcome. Info: [edmonton@janestown.com](mailto:edmonton@janestown.com).

**LAURIE RICE READING** — Nov 15, 3:30-5:30 pm. Humanities Centre, Main Fl., Rm 3. U of A. Eco-crit and literary scholar Rice will discuss *Human Shards*, a pedagogical model used to teach Arts and Humanities students about the natural environment, plus a reading from his new book *Solar Listening for the Northwest* University, examining cultural, biological and social issues. Info: [laurie@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:laurie@uwaterloo.ca).

**LUNCH BY THE BOOKS** — Stanley A. Miller Library, 7 Star Winston Churchill Square. Nov 15, 12:05-12:50 pm. "Energy, Sustainability, and Alberta's Future", facilitated by Donna Gibson, research director of the Portland Institute. Discussions offered by the U of A's Faculty of Arts and the Edmonton Public Library. Free, everyone welcome. Info: [www.uofa.ca/web/uofa/arts/lunchbythebooks.cfm](http://www.uofa.ca/web/uofa/arts/lunchbythebooks.cfm).

**MARY BETH LAVOLETTE BOOK-SIGNING** — Nov 10, 2 pm. Audrey's Books, 10702 Jasper Ave. Signing her new book *Into Art and Artists*. Art. Critic. Free. Info: 423-3487.

**NAKED CYBER CAFE & ESPRESSO BAR** 10354 Jasper Ave., 425-9730 — Every Thu open space poetry readings.

**POETS HAVEN WEEKLY READING SERIES** — Mondays 7 pm. Upper Crust Cafe, 10009-86 Ave. Presented by Strall of Poets Society. Info: [avilavil@vintergold.ca](mailto:avilavil@vintergold.ca).

**POETS INN** — Thursdays, 7-9 pm. St. Thomas Cafe, St. Albert. Weekly writing evenings. For info on the 07/08 season visit [www.poetsinn.ca](http://www.poetsinn.ca).

**THE RAVING POETS PRESENT "SPACE MONKEY" SERIES** — Wednesdays, Nov 7 Dec 12. Laughing, 10444-65 Ave., under *Travlers*. Open-space poetry series, hosted by The Raving Poets. Sign up at 7:30 pm, show at 8 pm. Info: [www.ravingpoets.com](http://www.ravingpoets.com).

**TIBETAN BUDDHIST PRACTICES ON DEATH AND DYING** — Nov 21, 7 pm. Westminster Community League, 10970-127 St. Public talk with visiting Buddhist master and Tibetan Lama He. Aang Rinpoche. Admission by donation. Info: 429-7664 or [retawest@vintergold.ca](mailto:retawest@vintergold.ca).

**ROZENA MARY READING** — Nov 8, 3 pm. Chapters on Why? 10504-82 Ave. Moart will read and discuss her new novel, *The Writing Circle*. Info: [www.torbooks.com](http://www.torbooks.com).

**SMILING THE NEW WEST** — Nov 17, 7 pm. Remedy Cafe, 8631-109 St. Authors William Scott, Natalie Jane Wolsch, and Ryan Fitzpatrick stop by on their cross-Canada tour to read from their latest works, published by New Press and Snare Books. Info: [snarenewest.blogspot.com](http://snarenewest.blogspot.com).

**STORY SLAM** — 3rd Wed every month, 7 pm. Blue Chair Cafe, 9624-26 Ave. Story Sign up at 7 pm. First 10 writers only. Five minutes each. Info: [www.storyslam.com](http://www.storyslam.com).

**U OF A DEPARTMENT OF ART & DESIGN LECTURE SERIES** — Nov 8-10 pm. Rm 2-20, Fine Arts Building, U of Alberta. Amy Otago, discusses her current book, *Object Lessons*. Design. Crowley and the National Culture of Childhood. Nov 24 Chicago-based visual artist John Fraser discusses his works and career in the arts.

## LEARNING

**AFRICAN DANCE CLASSES** — Movements, The Afro Caribbean Dance Ensemble holds classes conveniently located in Jasper Ave. Info: 415-5211 or [www.movementsdance.com](http://www.movementsdance.com).

**CHESS LEARNING AND PLAYING OPPORTUNITIES** — For students and families at Edmonton Chess Club and other locations. Info: 474-2218 or [email.rovingchess@shaw.ca](mailto:email.rovingchess@shaw.ca).

**DROP-IN ART FOR THE ARTIST AT HEART** — Profiles Public Art Gallery, 19 Parson St. Albert. Info on upcoming classes, call Glenda at 465-4310 or [art@glenda@bhamath.com](mailto:art@glenda@bhamath.com).

**EDMONTON WEARERS GUILD** — Offering classes on weaving and spinning. Info: Song 425-1152 or [email@wintereban.com](mailto:email@wintereban.com).

**EDMONTON WRITERS CENTRE** — Offers a creative space for writers of all genres and levels at the Stanley A. Miller Library. Hours: Mon-Fri 9 am-5 pm. Sat 9 am-6 pm. Sun 1-5 pm. Info: 496-7070.

**ENTERTAINMENT PROMOTIONS WORKSHOP** — Nov 10, 1-3 pm. Newwood Lecture, 11130-82 St. How to promote concerts, open stages, etc. Hosted by Kirby and the UpTown Kids! \$10 regular, \$5 members. Info: [uptown@bhamath.com](mailto:uptown@bhamath.com) or call 436-1554.

**FAPA WORKSHOPS** — The Film and Video Arts Society offers one-night workshops twice a month in a variety of media activities. Details at [www.fapa.ca](http://www.fapa.ca) or 429-1671.

**FLAMENCO LESSONS** — Judith and Oscar Jose. Flamenco lessons both flamenco dance & guitar. Flamenco every Sun, 2:30-3:30 pm. 11205-107 Ave. 1-780-349-4843 or [email@ogarcia@telusplanet.net](mailto:email@ogarcia@telusplanet.net).

**HARCOURT HOUSE ART CLASSES** — A variety of low-cost classes specializing in drawing, painting, and other mediums, taught by professional artists & educators. Schedules and info at [www.harcourthouse.ca](http://www.harcourthouse.ca) or call 426-4180.

**LEARNING CENTRE LITERACY ASSOCIATION** — #200, 10116-103 Ave. The Learning Centre is looking for people to help adults develop their literacy and math skills. Volunteer and help others make positive changes for themselves and their communities. Info: Mary at 429-0675.

**KARATE'S A KICK** — Karate kids over 10, teens, and adults. Info: [www.matsoswin.com](http://www.matsoswin.com) or call 975-9169.

**KITA NO TAIKO JAPANESE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS** — Schedule, info, and registration. [www.kitainfo.ca](http://www.kitainfo.ca) or call 431-0300.

**MARS HILL CENTRE** — 8831-104 St., 435-0022. Offers classes and workshops on the recovery process, incorporating emotional, relational and spiritual dimensions. Registration is on a sliding scale, based on participant's income. Full details at [www.marshillcentre.com](http://www.marshillcentre.com).

**MEDIA MAG WORKSHOPS** — Nov 14 "Pitch Your Story to the Media", learn to develop story angles to pitch to newspapers, magazines, radio, TV reporters, bloggers, and social media networks. Nov 21 "Power up your Website" Nov 28 "Mastering Media Interviews". Workshops of Nina Hegarty. Centre for the Arts. Cost: \$175-\$675. Info: [www.media.org](http://www.media.org) or call 495-5675.

**MOMMY & ME BELLY DANCING CLASSES** — Belly dance classes and parties for adults and children. For more information call 428-5571, or email [bella@belladancing.net](mailto:bella@belladancing.net).

**MOSAICS ART CLASSES** — Minerva Mosics offers a range of mosaic art classes for beginners and intermediates, taught at the City Arts Centre, 10943-84 Ave. Info: [www.minervamosics.com](http://www.minervamosics.com) or call 439-1957.

**MRIA LUNCH & LEARN SEMINARS** — The Marketing Research and Intelligence Association of Alberta holds workshops at the U of A. Free info: [info@canadainfo.ca](mailto:info@canadainfo.ca).

**WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN SCHOOL** — Nov 16-18. The ninth annual Women's Campaign School is a non-partisan, non-issue-based campaign training program that prepares women from across the country for participation in all levels of government: committee, board, civic, provincial, federal, First Nations and international. Info: [email.congress@telus.net](mailto:email.congress@telus.net) or go to [www.canadianwomensvolunteercongress.org](http://www.canadianwomensvolunteercongress.org).

## KIDS

**ADVENTURE SUNDAYS** John Jensen Nature Centre, Fox Dr. & Whitemud Dr. — Sundays, 11 am - 4 pm. Join a naturalist and explore a new theme. Each weekend features hands-on activities and projects for the whole family. Admission: \$1.75 adults, \$1.50 youth/teachers, \$1.25 children. Info: 494-8787 or [www.edmonton.ca/ghjnhazn](http://www.edmonton.ca/ghjnhazn).

**BALLOON DANCE CLASSES FOR KIDS** — Info: email [danceopen@edmontonathletic.com](mailto:danceopen@edmontonathletic.com), or call 429-738-0209.

**CAPOERA KIDS CLASSES** 10540 Jasper Ave., 707-3500 — Mondays & Fridays 7-8 pm; Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30-6:30 pm. Capoeira is a Brazilian mix of dance, martial arts & performance. Info: [www.capoeiraedmonton.com](http://www.capoeiraedmonton.com).

**FREE INDOOR SOCCER PROGRAM** — Saturdays, Nov-Jun. Sacred Heart School Gymnasium, 96 St. & 108 Ave. Introduction to basic soccer skills by FIFA coach Tony Wallace. Info: 420-0760.

**KIDS READ! EDMONTON** — Until Dec 14. Edmonton Public Libraries. The first ever book club just for kids. Students grades 4-6 can read *The Mystery of the Griffin* aloud by local author Mary Chan, participate in forums, enter contests, and write their own reviews. Info: 496-7040 or [www.epl.ca](http://www.epl.ca).

**YOUTH DROP-IN CENTRE** Castle Downs YMCA, 11510-153 Ave., 476-9622 — Fridays, 7-10 pm. basketball, or hockey, football, swimming & open gym. Call Trent, 476-9622 for info.

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community members welcome. Email [info@grazvioletta.ca](mailto:info@grazvioletta.ca) for Agopie events schedule. Info: 492-0772.

**EPF/LGBTQ LIAISON COMMITTEE** — The EPF/LGBTQ Liaison Committee is composed of a wide variety of concerned lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans-identified, two-spirited, queer, allied community members, and police officers. Please email us with any questions or concerns at [epflgbl@yahoo.ca](mailto:epflgbl@yahoo.ca). All inquiries will be treated with confidentiality and respect. To report a hate or bias motivated crime, please contact the EPS Hate & Bias Crime Unit (780) 421-3489.

**IGLFA** — International Gay & Lesbian Football Association. Info: [www.iglf.org/home.htm](http://www.iglf.org/home.htm).

**INSIDE/OUT U of A Campus** — A Campus-based organization for LGBT faculty, graduates, academic & staff. Straight allies are also welcome. Monthly meetings. Contact [kwell@telusplanet.net](mailto:kwell@telusplanet.net) or [mwhorh@bhamath.com](mailto:mwhorh@bhamath.com).

**PRIDE CENTRE** 9540-111 Ave., 488-3234 — GLBT & Supporters Community & Resource Centre. Join a group or take part in special programming. Hours: Mon-Fri 1 pm - 10 pm. Info: [www.pridecentreedmonton.org](http://www.pridecentreedmonton.org).

**TEAM EDMONTON** — A volunteer organization, not-for-profit society for members and friends of the GLBT community, offering well organized and fun sporting events and other recreational activities within a positive social framework. Info: [www.teamedmonton.ca](http://www.teamedmonton.ca).

**WOMENSPACE** — Non-profit lesbian organization for Edmonton and surrounding area. Organized monthly activities include licensed non-smoking dances, coffee houses, family events, games nights, golf tournaments, and more. Information flyers available, including monthly newsletter. Confidentiality assured. Info: [www.gaycanada.com/womenspace](http://www.gaycanada.com/womenspace), email [womenspace@telus.net](mailto:womenspace@telus.net), or phone (780) 482-1794.

## THURSDAY

**BI-SEXUAL WOMEN'S COFFEE GROUP** — Second Thu each month 7:30 pm. A social group for bi-curious and bisexual women. More info: [groups@bhamath.com](mailto:groups@bhamath.com).

**COCOA ANONYMOUS MEETING** — Every Thu, 7 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) Call Hollie, 425-2715.

**FREE TO BE INTERMEDIATE VOLLEYBALL** — 8-10 pm. 101 Astoriaquay Academy. Info: [volleyball@edmontonian.net](mailto:volleyball@edmontonian.net).

**GAYWIRE CJSR 88.5** — 6 pm. Edmonton's only radio show featuring lesbian, bisexual and transgendered lives. Featuring news, local and international features and community events.

**HIV POSITIVE GLBT SUPPORT GROUP** — Every sec and Thu, 7 pm - 9 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) Drop-in support group facilitated by Mark from HIV Edmonton.

**LGBT SENIORS DROP IN** — Every Thu, 2 pm - 4 pm. Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave.) Info: [jell, 488-3234](mailto:jell, 488-3234).

**ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB** The Roost, 10345-104 St. Second Thu of each month, 8 pm. Cross-dressers, transsexuals, friends, and supporters meet. Info: 387-3343 or go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton\\_illusions](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/edmonton_illusions).

**TRANS SUPPORT GROUP** 9540-111 Ave. — Last Fri, every month, 7 pm. TMO Alliance, dinner & social evening for trans-identified & questioning people, family & friends. Info: 718-1412 or [ti@queer@shaw.ca](mailto:ti@queer@shaw.ca).

## FRIDAY

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**NORTHERN CHAPS** Boots, 10242-106 St. — Edmonton's original leather-fetish-uniform club meets the first and third Sat of every month, 9 pm. Info: [mon@northernchaps.com](mailto:mon@northernchaps.com) or [www.northernchaps.com](http://www.northernchaps.com).

**NORTHERN TITANS GLBT BOULEVARD LEAGUE** Gateway Lines & Recreation Centre, #100, 3414 Gateway Blvd. N — \$15 per person. Info: [bawling@edmontonian.net](mailto:bawling@edmontonian.net).

**SINGLE LESSONS OVER 40** — Women's social group has monthly gatherings for conversation over tea & coffee. Info: email [singletwomen40plus@hotmail.com](mailto:singletwomen40plus@hotmail.com).

**SUIT UP & SHOW UP** Pride Centre, 9540-111 Ave. — Big Book Study 12 noon-3 pm.

**YOUTH UNDERSTANDING YOUTH** Pride Centre, 9540-111 Ave. — Every Sat, 7 pm. Providing a warm and friendly place where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, straight and questioning youth under the age of 25 can gather to have fun and learn about themselves and others in a safe, supportive and caring environment. Info: [members.shaw.ca/yuy](mailto:members.shaw.ca/yuy).

## SUNDAY

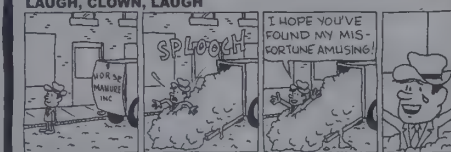
**ARCTIC FRONTIERS** — 10 am. Runners of all levels of ability are welcome. Our runs are typically 6-8 km long and usually take 44-60 min. Coffee afterwards. Info: [www.arcticfrontiers.ca](http://www.arcticfrontiers.ca) or call 436-7892.

**BEARS MOVIE NIGHT** Pride Centre, 9540-111 Ave. — Last Sun of every month, 1 pm - 6 pm. Movies in the T.V. room. Info: 488-3234.

**EDMONTON PRIME TIMES (EPH)** Unitarian Church of Edmonton 10804 - 119 St. — 2nd Sun, most months, 2:30 pm. Older gay men and their partners from diverse backgrounds with com-

## TOM THE DANCING BUG'S SUPER-FUN-PAR COMICS

LAUGH, CLOWN, LAUGH



60/24/365, THE COMIC THAT ELAPSES IN REAL TIME



THE EPIC/BRUTAL REPORT



RIDICULOUS-PLOT-CONTRIVANCE-MAN

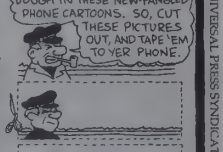


COMICS FOR DOGS



## UNCLE CAPN'S CELL PHONE ANIMATIONS

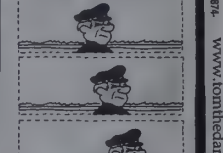
AWAY AND WHATEVER, OK. I HEARD THERE'S LOTS OF DOUGLAS IN THESE NEW-FANGLED PHONE CARTOONS. SO, CUT THESE PICTURES OUT, AND TAPE 'EM TO YOUR PHONE.



NOW FLIP 'EM AND YOU'VE DOWNLOADED YER CARTOON.



SO, SEND ME \$5 EACH TIME YOU USE IT, TO...



HEY BACK IN IT.



mon social interests meet for a social period, a short business meeting, and then a guest speaker, discussion panel, or potluck supper. Special interest groups meet for other social activities throughout the month. EPT is affiliated with Prime Times World Wide. Info: email edmonton-see@worldwide.ca, visit [www.primetimestimes.org/edmonton](http://www.primetimestimes.org/edmonton) or attend a monthly meeting.

**EDMONTON TRANSEXUAL PEER SUPPORT GROUP** — Every 2nd & 4th Sun, 2 pm, Pride Centre (9540-111 Ave) Info: 488-3234.

**HATHA YOGA** — Lion's Breath Yoga 2:30-3 pm. Introductory level class, free. No previous experience required. Please yoga mat or towel and water. Info: [yoga@edmonton.ca](mailto:yoga@edmonton.ca)

**LAMBDA CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CHURCH** — Gorge United Church, 11148 84 Ave. — Lambda provides a safe and healing space for Edmonton's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and heterosexual Christians and their friends. All denominations, faiths welcome. Worship at 7 pm, Sun. Info: 887-8611 or [lambdachurch@shaw.ca](mailto:lambdachurch@shaw.ca)

**MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP** — Pride Centre 9540-111 Ave. — Every Sun, 7 pm. Men's social & discussion group. Call: 488-3234.

**SOUTHWEST-STEINHAUER UNITED CHURCH** 10740 19 Ave. — 10 am. Welcomes people of all sexual orientations. Info: 987-4974.

**SPIRITUAL LIVING CENTRE** — Celebrating and embracing the spiritual magnificence in all. [www.spiritualivingcentre.com](http://www.spiritualivingcentre.com), 989-3752.

## MONDAY

**BOOZCAMP** — Every Mon 7 pm, Oliver Community Hall, 10326-118 St. Info: [boozcamp@edmonton.ca](mailto:boozcamp@edmonton.ca)

**CURLING WITH PRIDE** — Every Mon (until Mar 17), 7:15 pm. Granite Curling Club, 8620-127 St. Info: [curling@edmonton.ca](mailto:curling@edmonton.ca)

## TUESDAY

**FREEDOM METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF EDMONTON** 10088 MacDonald Dr. — 7:15 pm. A church for all people. Info: 429-2221.

**GROUP MOVIE NIGHT** — Phone to find out what movie, when to meet and where. Join us for coffee afterwards, too. Cost: Free for 2 members

plus theatre costs. Info: 454-0313  
**MAKING WAVES SWIMMING CLUB** — NAIT Pool, 11762 106 St. Recreational and competitive swimming with coaching. Beginners encouraged to participate. Practices every Tue (8-9 pm) and Thu (7:30-8:30 pm). Socialization after practices. Info: [swimming@edmonton.ca](mailto:swimming@edmonton.ca)

**OUTREACH Heritage Room** — Athabasca Hall, U of A Campus — 5 pm. U of A based group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and straight but friendly students, staff and faculty. Open to the community, not just U of A. Info: [outreach.psu@ualberta.ca](mailto:outreach.psu@ualberta.ca) or [outreach@ualberta.ca](mailto:outreach@ualberta.ca)

**PLAID Pride Centre** 9540-111 Ave. — Support meeting first Tue every month, 7 pm. For parents, families and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people. Info: Ruby at 436-1998 or [edmonton@plaidcanada.ca](mailto:edmonton@plaidcanada.ca)

**STEP AEROBICS** — 5 pm. 9100 Waverdale Hill Aerobics Studio, Kinsmen Sports Centre. Email: [step@edmonton.ca](mailto:step@edmonton.ca)

**TRANS SUPPORT GROUP** — Gorge United Church meeting room, 11148 84 Ave. — Second Tue of every month, 7:30-9:30 pm. TTIQ, an education & support group for trans-identified & questioning people. Info: 718-1412 or [tiq@edmonton.ca](mailto:tiq@edmonton.ca)

## WEDNESDAY

**EDMONTON RAINBOW BUSINESS ASSOCIATION** — Meets the second Wed of every month, for casual networking with the LGBT business community. Locations listed on [www.edmontonrainbow.org](http://www.edmontonrainbow.org)

**FREE TO SUPPORT RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL** — 8:10 pm. 101 Amiskwac Academy, \$50 per session. Info: [recvolleyball@edmonton.ca](mailto:recvolleyball@edmonton.ca)

**OPEN DOOR CLUB** — Every Wed, 5 pm, Grant MacEwan College — City Centre Campus (Rm 4-217) A social group for LGBTQ students, faculty & friends at Grant MacEwan College.

**TEAM EDMONTON BADMINTON** — Every Wed, 6 pm. Oliver School Gym 10227-118 St. Women's drop-in recreational badminton. All levels welcome. \$30 for the season. \$5 drop-in. Info: 465-3620.

**YOURS, MINE, OURS AND US (YMOU)** — A support group for LGBT parents, partners and their friends. Meets first and third Wed of the month. Info: 426-6311 or 415-5434.

**YOUTH THEATRE PROJECT** — 9540-111 Ave

**Every Wed, 7 pm** The Pride Centre of Edmonton is proud to announce the beginning of a Youth Theatre Project aimed at using the arts to educate about and reduce homophobic bullying. No theatre experience required. Please contact Emily at 488-3234 for info.

## BATH HOUSES

**DOWN UNDER** 12224 Jasper Ave., 482-7960. [www.gayedmonton.ca](http://www.gayedmonton.ca)  
**STEAMWORKS** 11745 Jasper Ave., 451-5554 — Open 24/7

## DANCE

**CITE BALLET "V"** — Nov 10, 8:30 pm. Eva O Howard Theatre, Victoria School, 10210-108 Ave. New works, including *Ventilator*, a modern vocal composition by Sébastien Grosjean.

**Vice Versa** — collaborative choreography by William Thompson and François Chevenement; Valenciana, a Romeno performance by Judith Garcia, and *Vice Versa*, a contemporary ballet by Judith Garcia. Also featuring a re-staging of the classical ballet *La Vivandière*. Tickets: \$20, \$15 senior/student. [CiteBallet](mailto:CiteBallet), 472-7774

**CONTACT IMPROV JAM** — 8:30-10:30 pm. All movers, musicians, and artists welcome. Info: 450-3336

**DANCE OF UNIVERSAL PEACE** — 2nd & 4th Thu of every month, 7:30 pm. Riverdale Hall, 9231-100 Ave. Info: Call: 467-1265

**KIDDO PIVOT "LOST ARTIST"** — Nov 23 & 24. John L. Hoar Theatre, 10045-156 St. By Vancouver choreographer Crystal Pite. Presented by the Brian Webb Dance Company. Tickets at TIX. Info: [www.bvdc.ca](http://www.bvdc.ca)

**RED BOOTS, BALLET & BUBBLY** — Nov 10, Jubilee Auditorium. The Ukrainian Shukla Dancers premiere new creations at this fundraising cabaret. *Vermillion* Life is a Cabaret! — Carpathian songs, and a multi-media variety show featuring live music, recitals, and inventive choreography. Tickets: \$100, at Shumka, 455-9559

**RODA DE CAPOERA** — Saturdays, 1-2 pm, Capoeira Academy, 10540 Jasper Ave., 709-3500 A live performance of Capoeira, a Brazilian mix of dance, martial arts and music, invented by African slaves. Info:

[www.capoeiraedmonton.ca](http://www.capoeiraedmonton.ca)

## THEATRE

**CARAVAN L'AVENTURE** — Nov 22-25 & Nov 29-Dec 2, 8 pm, and 2 pm Sunday. La Cle Française, 8627-91 St. Unifrance's annual community show looks of two timeless classics, *Molière's Le Médecin Volant (The Flying Doctor)* and *Moravia's La Colombe (The Dove)*. Tickets: \$23, \$15 students. Info: 469-8400 or [www.unifrance.ca](http://www.unifrance.ca)

**CHOKE** — Until Nov 18. Royal Theatre, 10208-124 St. By Cathleen Rostoker. Presented by Theatre Network. When Catherine falls seriously ill, her family is turned upside down, and her sons are forced to settle their rivalry. *Choke* for her. Shows Tue-Sat 8 pm. Info: [www.theatrenet-work.ca](http://www.theatrenet-work.ca)

**CTRL ALT DELETE** — Nov 14, 7 pm. Festival Place Sherwood Park. A show addressing issues affecting young people, especially focusing on cyber bullying and the Internet's social implications. Presented by SAPPFRO and Overcoming Imaginations. Not suitable for children under 12. Tickets at TM and the Festival Place box office.

**DUST** — Nov 8-18. TransAlta Arts Barns, 10330-84 Ave. Tue-Sun 8 pm. Info: [www.markstubbings.ca](http://www.markstubbings.ca) A look at how we view, interpret, and play about the two only universal experiences, loss and death. Taxes not withholding. Presented by Last Night Productions. Tickets: \$15, \$15 student/senior or TIX.

**LANGUAGE & CONTENT** — Last Mon every month (starting Nov 26). Jolly & Hyde Pub, 10610-100 Ave. Image Theatre's new monthly series presents readings of new and unproduced plays. Show 8 pm, doors 7 pm. Food and drink service available. Admission is pay-what-you-can (suggested \$5). Info: call Ryan 297-2675, or email [languageandcontent@gmail.com](mailto:languageandcontent@gmail.com)

**LETTERS IN WARTIME** — Nov 12-22, 8 pm. Acadia Theatre, 11315-108 Ave. Presented by RBBT/PARC. A smash hit or the 2005 Fringe, this moving play about WWII is being remounted in honour of Remembrance Day for two performances only. Mainstage performance is PWYC in the door, tickets for the 8 pm performance are \$15, \$12 student/senior at TIX or at the door.

**THE LOVE OF THE NIGHTINGALE** — Nov 13-17, 7:30 pm. Second Playing Space, Timms Centre

**U of A U of A** By Timberlake Wertenbaker. The play examines the nature of myth-making on the power of words as well as the cyclical nature of violence. Presented by ABEDAM, a student run U of A theatre company. \$5 preview Nov 13 at 7:30 pm, matinee Nov 17 at 2 pm. Tickets: \$15, \$10, \$5, \$3. Info: [uofa@uofa.ca](mailto:uofa@uofa.ca) or [www.uofa.ca/uofa/ca/drama/abedam/dm](http://www.uofa.ca/uofa/ca/drama/abedam/dm)

**RAPID FIRE THEATRE** Vancouver Theatre, 10329-83 Ave. 448-0695 — Theatre spots Fridays at 11 pm, *Climpov Saturdays* at 11 pm, \$10 at the door. Info: [www.rapidfiretheatre.com](http://www.rapidfiretheatre.com)

**STUCK** — Until Nov 10, Third Space, 11516-103 St. Workshop West presents Frank Zoller in David Rubenstein's play, charting one night of a wannabe actor's/hustler's desperate quest for an acting gig, validation, food, booze, pot, sex, or a little something stronger. Tickets: \$23 at TIX or at the door

**THEATRE PROSPECTO PRESENTS ROMEO & JULIET** — Nov 8 & 9, 7:30 pm. Aventura One, 9210-118 Ave. Starring Ben McIvor, Brenta Corner, Nick Green, Rebecca Scott, Steven Waller, Garrett Ross, and other exciting talent. Directed by Mark Henderson. Designed by Ann Farrow. Tickets: \$10 student, \$14 regular. Info: 477-2773 for bookings & group rates.

**WHAT THE BUTLER SAW** — Until Nov 10, Timms Centre, U of A campus. Studio Theatre presents a play by Joe Orton. Director Ron Itteman explores themes of madness, psychology, and authority in a risqué and furiously paced comedy set in the 1960s. Shows nightly 7:30 pm. Tickets: \$10-\$20 at TIX or at the Timms box office one hour prior to performance.

**THE WIZARD OF OZ** — Nov 20-22. Archbishop Jordan High School, 2021 Brentwood Blvd. Sherwood Park. Presented by the Archbishop Jordan Theatre department. Info: 467-2121.

## ALT CINEMA

**CINEMA AT THE CENTRE** — Nov 14, 6:30 pm. Touch of Puck (UK) Canada, 2004. After leaving his widowed mother in London with his partner, Alim returns to Toronto for his cousin's wedding. Free admission. Info: 486-7070

**EDMONTON FILM SOCIETY** Royal Alberta Museum, 12844-102 Ave. — Info: 436-5525 or [www.royalalbertamuseum.ca/events/movies/m](http://www.royalalbertamuseum.ca/events/movies/m)

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SHAKE IT
- 4) STRAIN & ENJOY!  
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**1600. Volunteers Wanted**

**Respected Volunteer Recruitment**  
Red Cross is seeking energetic, caring & committed Volunteer Prevention Educators to teach Relationship Violence Prevention to local youth. Training begins this fall. For more information go to [www.redcross.ca/cbr](http://www.redcross.ca/cbr) or Call: 423-2880

Take advantage of this volunteer experience of a lifetime! Become a friend to a NEW Canadian and share a life changing experience. Contact Dulian at 474-8554

The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton is in need of volunteers to take calls on our 24-Hour Crisis Line. The hours are self-determined and you can work from your home! For more info and upcoming training dates, contact us at 423-4102

Theater Network is looking for theater usher or concession volunteers, get free tickets! Call 453-2440

Volunteer for Theatre Network and Get Free tickets to any Performance! Call Elsa @ 453-2440 for info

**Volunteer Kitchen Help & Drivers**  
Urgently Needed: Edmonton Meals on Wheels is seeking volunteer kitchen help for weekday morning shifts. Jobs are varied and the hours are flexible. Volunteer drivers for routes all over the city are also needed. If you're available weekdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. call Meals on Wheels to find out how you can be part of our volunteer team! Call 429-2020. [www.mealsonwheelsedmonton.org](http://www.mealsonwheelsedmonton.org)

**1600. Volunteers Wanted**

**VOLUNTEER TUTORS needed**  
Can you read this? Many can't! Become a tutor and share the gift of reading. Call P.A.L.S. at 424-5514 to help change a life through literacy. Training and materials are provided

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
Lifelong Wool and Extra Knitting. Needles to knit warm items for our newly arrived immigrants. Call Lucia 424-3545 ext 230.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** To assist new immigrants on a first time shopping trip for essentials. 2-3 hrs occasional, weekdays. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** To help Somali children with homework. Begins in September. 2 Evenings. Northside location. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** To teach English to adult immigrants. Flexible day/eve days/weekends. 3-4 hrs/week. No exp. req. various locations. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
for clinical duties. Call Judy 424-3545 ext 249

**2005. Artist to Artist**

Professional original beats recording, editing, mastering and mixing. Book your appointments now. Affordable rates. Call Dan @ 905-5191

**Student Film-Maker** seeks male actor for teaching role and young native boy for student role. Call Dan @ 905-5191

Studio time available for solo artists or bands during October and November. Call Daman 964-6295

**2005. Artist to Artist**

The Children's Educational Safety Services in partnership with Santos Anonymous requires the following Volunteers/Artists to help with mail promotions: Clowns, Storytellers, Children Entertainers, Balloon Artists, etc. Supplies provided. Please call Laura at 907-5459 if you can help

**2010. Musicians Available**

25yo 15y exp Piano, Guitar, Bass, Drums, w/ Digital. Wants fun gig/ jam w/ whatever, preferred drums

Lead/Bass player available for country/rock/funk and w/ vocals. Phone 443-1153 after 6pm. Ask for Joe.

Singer/Guitarist avail. influences - VU, the Yardbirds, the Clash, Dylan, X, Sex Pistols, the Who, the mystery tramp @ hotmail.com

**2020. Musicians Wanted**

If piece indie folk rock requires percussionist: call Jake/Shawn @ 669-9626

A young-retired or retired lead guitar and bass player wanted for Legions and seniors functions and occasional dances. P/T 442-4973

**BAND NEEDS LEAD GUITAR PLAYER** TOWN&COUNTRY, TRANSPORTATION & GOOD ATTITUDE A MUST! Call 998-0567

Band with Jam Space and CD seek 1st drummer & second guitar. NO METAL. 217-5985 after 6

Bass player wanted for established metal band. Call 484-8515

Musicians for P/T country/rock band, vocals an asset. 937-3159

**2020. Musicians Wanted**

Drummer needed for an experimental rock trio. Influences range from the Beatles to Tool. Call Adrian 642-0725

Drummer w/ vocals wanted for two. Weekly jam sessions. Classic rock covers. Mike 474-3740

Drums, bass, and keyboards wanted for new wave sounding band. Demos available. Leave msg 423-4475

Experienced bassist looking for rapper able to freestyle and drummer for improv-heavy hip-hop band. 919-8330

**FACE FIRST** looking for drummer & bass player, serious inquiries only. Call Johnny 471-4710

**GUITARISTS, BASSISTS, Pianists & Drummers**, vocalists needed for good paying teaching jobs. Call 429-2262

**HAVOC** needs a guitarist, pro gear, experience, backing vocals and hair required. Ozzy, Van Halen, Dio. 1. res. audio @shaw.ca

Killer Cowboy seeks a professional drummer. Call John at 713-7327

Kindred Spirits seeks versatile percussionist to play original eclectic music. I Have CD release gig in January 2008. I Phone 424-6769 (Dean) or 460-9722 (John)

King Ring Nancy now seeking pro drummer. Check us out. [www.kingringnancy.com](http://www.kingringnancy.com) or call Kevin 642-2526

original bands all kinds play downtown pub (indie, rock, metal and punk). just Art 966-6166

**2020. Musicians Wanted**

Male singer wanted for cover/original band INFL: Foo Fighters, OLP, Kings of Leon. Please call 953-8788 MUST-BE HUMAN

Old school metal band needs vocalist. No posers or acts. Serious inquiries only. Call Dean 461-1892

Pro bass player needed, must be creative and looking to experiment. Influences: Tool, Mastodon, Pink Floyd. 221-0419

Singer needed for Ozzy/Sabbath tribute. Wicked World. Call Dan 860-7666

Skilled mature bassist and drummer needed for band with EP. Call Jett @ 962-0915

The GhettoBlasters are still looking for a lead guitar player. Call Jimmy at 659-6946

The Ozzy Ozmonds cover band seeks bass player. Talent and energy are crucial. Incubus, Rancid, Goldfinger, RHCP. Phone 423-2352. Email: [tsioxstirring73@gmail.com](mailto:tsioxstirring73@gmail.com)

These Bright Lights require bass player, ages 18-30. Listen at [www.myspace.com/thesebrightlights](http://www.myspace.com/thesebrightlights). Leave message @ 483-9390

Wanted lead country guitar player for part-time work, Red Water and surrounding area, some days, some afternoons. 942-4973

**2040. Music Instruction**

Guitar lessons - All Ages and Styles. 20 yrs Experience. Visit [www.guitarinstructor.ca](http://www.guitarinstructor.ca) or call Billy 480-6169

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**2170. Dance**

**FLAMENCO DANCE OR GUITAR** Fridays & Sundays. 11205-107 Avenue, Edmonton. Call 1-780-349-4843 or e-mail: [garcia@telusplanet.net](mailto:garcia@telusplanet.net)

**2200. Massage Therapy**

**Asian Massage, Swedish Relaxation massage, deep tissue and lymphatic drainage.** Monday-Saturday. Sun-9pm. Senior Discount. Lily 405-8083

**Asian Touch Massage**  
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**2200. Massage Therapy**

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**3210. Auctions**

**UNRESERVED AUCTION** Fully-insured home sites in Thomson Lake Regional Park, Saskatchewan will be auctioned in Edmonton December 12, by Ritchie Bros Auctioneers Leasehold interest. Visit [www.rauction.com/thomsonlake](http://www.rauction.com/thomsonlake) or call 1-877-675-5683.

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NOVEMBER 8 TO 14

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**  
You've done a dang good job juggling duties over the last 111 while so you deserve a big smile. That's why this week the cosmos is sending you a sackful of delights. Be careful though. Once you start takin' bites, you may not stop. Don't indulge yourself all for the next 14 to the bottom of the bag!

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**  
Opposites attract, it's a fact, and now you're smack dab in the middle of that timeless riddle — what do you do when it happens to you? Well, it makes perfect sense you'd want someone who complements your talents. It only makes you stronger. If what you ain't good f'r, they are — and it's voley-voley when you're in biz!

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)**  
All your goats can go ahead and get your vayas out over the next two weeks without worryin' about whether or not it's the right thing to do. Just look at it like it's a karmic vacation for you. Sure, at the end of it you'll have to go back to work, but for the next 14 days, there ain't much you can't shirk.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**  
The longer you're hot under the collar, the

more likely it's that when you holler, fill, come out as an airplane, scream, holler, pump someone nearby, cause you've waited too long to let out some steam. That's why, this week, when you can't let somethin' ride, you're better off spoutin' off, not bottlin' it all up inside!

**PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)**  
Pisces is the sign of spiritual transformation, and there's no mistakin' you're shakin' your peak when you challenge embracein' that's why, soon, when this particular contest is complete, you've gotta fight the urge to rest your laurels on this feat. The first thing you need to do is find yet another test to beat!

**ARIES (March 21 - April 19)**  
Normally, you fans try to follow every impulse you can, but at this point in time that ain't the best plan. Things have changed in more ways than one, and now there's certain things that need to be done whether or not you think they're fun. Most important's coverin' your , cause you can't always tell what will come o' pass.

**TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)**  
You've done a wonderful job juddin' down

theif, but it makes you as excitin' as a narcoleptic who's OD'd on — John's Wort. All work and no play makes a dull jack. You can't take it with you, and you don't get time spent back. This week, spend a lil less of it thinkin' 'bout bills and a lil more chasin' some thrills.

**GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)**  
Mercury was the feet-footed feather, ankled Reddy to the Gods, 'terfyal messages from deity to deity. Maybe that's how you oughta be — movin' around from place to place at risk pace might increase your chances of winnin' the race. The best way to get satisfaction in life is to be where all the action is!

**CANCER (June 21 - July 22)**  
Whichever authority you get your info from has suggested interestin' keepin' your dumb. Maybe it's 'cause they want your money o' an ego boost, but the , as truth you know the more they rule the more. This week, don't place your blind faith in what someone says to ease it's misinformation!

**LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)**  
You can expect a lil turbulence over the next few days, but you shouldn't be too shook up that you'll be left in the dust. In fact, you just

focus your attention on the business at hand, you won't notice anything until you and you're always livin' friendly skies as long as you keep your eye on the prize!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)**  
Who says morals ain't got no value? You're livin' proof! If how followin', one's moral code makes it easier in the long run for em to walk down the road. Right now, you've accumulated so much honour on your side that even if you were defeated, it couldn't dent your pride. It also makes it harder for you to be denied!

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**  
What you're gettin' right now is a cupcake without icing. It's yummy, but not quite perfect. Now, when Libra, you'll hap-ily eat it that way. But if you had a choice, you'd only rather have some icing on it! Well, you do. This week, instead of settlin' for less, stick it out till you get the best!

You can contact The Kid at [crusinthecosmos@hotmail.com](mailto:crusinthecosmos@hotmail.com)

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# House of jealous lovers

Don't allow that green-eyed monster to make you see red

I GOT JEALOUS THIS WEEK. I'D FORGOTTEN the way it burns—that lovely concoction in the pit of your gut of panic, anger, insecurity, craziness, a sudden increased desire for your mate, and the secret urge to take the eyes out of the woman who has suddenly, perhaps quite innocently, come between you.

I guess part of me was naive enough to think that maybe I was beyond it, that it was dead stuff. Not that I was one of those scary-alien types who proclaim, "I don't get jealous." Just that I was beyond succumbing to its irrationality.

As usual, its entry, while gale-like in force, was triggered by a simple and barely significant event. A tiny, inexplicable detail, a message I noticed on his Facebook page, that, as far as I was concerned, did not fit into the "just friendly" category.

You don't want to know, I fiercely told myself, though every fibre in my body was crying out for details. Be cool, I muttered, as I calmly inquired as to who this woman was and just what she meant by her quaint little personalized message.

He explained she was simply an old friend he'd dated a long time ago, and that while he admitted her message was flirtatious, there certainly wasn't anything going on and he didn't even plan on responding.

## MY MESSY BEDROOM

JOSEY VOGELS

He did a pretty good selling job, but it still bugged me. Why hadn't he mentioned this woman had contacted him in the first place?

I knew you'd read something else into it if I told you, he tells me. Yeah, duh. So should I? Be reading something else into it, that is? No, he insisted. Honest? No. End of exchange. That's all I'm supposed to need, right? I trusted him, didn't I?

So why did I find myself slyly eyeballing his computer every time I caught him on Facebook?

Why was I dividing my time between wondering and trying to stop myself from wondering—letting my imagination take off, just to see how bad I could feel? How long had she dated? How serious was it? What was the sex like? Stop it!

In a fit of maturity, I got a grip. C'mon, I told myself, you've had exes, even had

exchanges with them you didn't tell him about. Where do you get off being jealous? Yeah, but it's not the same when I have crushes or flirt with someone, I argue back. I know what it means when I do it. This rationale is a perfect example of just how irrational jealousy is.

In the end, I think he was telling the truth (though I'm sure I'll demand a few hits of reassurance over the next while), but I'm sure there was some part of him that wanted to keep me in suspense. After all, jealousy can be flattering. But this is where you have to be careful. Jealousy is not a toy.

It may be fun to make someone a little jealous, to keep things on edge and remind him once in a while how totally irresistible you are, but making a habit out of deliberately making someone jealous is mean, stupid, and annoying. Even if it's totally innocent, revealing that you've always fantasized about sleeping with your partner's best friend or constantly commenting on how cute you find so-and-so at the office will make your partner see green, so think before you speak.

On the other hand, as much as you'd like to think that your date isn't allowed to have had a life before you, you have put your ego aside and not let yourself get into a flap over every potential threat.



THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER  
Artist's rendering

Especially if you're drunk. Drunken jealousy is particularly unsightly, even more so if you're at a party and decide to involve the party guests and selected food items from the buffet table. Avoid. This is where jealousy slides into possessiveness, another ugly side of this delightful emotion that usually only succeeds in pushing the person even farther away.

Biologists say jealousy is in our evolutionary interest, as it keeps our mate from straying. Anthropologists say it doesn't exist in cultures where relationships outside of marriage are accepted. Hippies claimed jealousy was virtually nonexistent in communal mar-

riage experiments in the '60s. Psychologists say people who have experienced abandonment in their lives are often extremely jealous out of fear of losing their partner. Others say jealousy is simply part of "human nature." One comment likened it to war, describing war as "jealousy on a larger scale," as in, stay out of my territory.

Having just come back from the battlefield, I have to agree that, when you're in the grip of jealousy, it's tough to resist pulling out all your artillery.

But ultimately, keeping the peace is much less damaging to both parties.

Even if it's totally innocent, constantly commenting on how cute you find so-and-so at the office will make your partner see green, so think before you speak.



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# Man in impossible situation asks Dan for impossible advice

Plus: do you get to call yourself a lesbian if you're in a monogamous relationship with a man?

I CAME OUT AFTER A NUMBER OF YEARS of "playing straight." I had two relatively long-term monogamous gay relationships, then converted a friend into a boyfriend. We bought a house, got a dog, and live in the burbs. Supposedly, life is good.

I'm a fairly athletic guy, and I got started playing sports partly to overcome my internal homophobia. My partner isn't athletic. He likes to stay home, watch movies, cook with real butter—consequently, he's out of shape. Our relationship is great in that we have a high degree of true honesty between us—he's a trustworthy guy, and I love him and his family.

The issue is that I often feel stuck. I've dealt with some anxiety and am taking medication to help that. I'm a fairly balanced guy, but I still feel the urge to get out and be with other guys I find more attractive. I struggle in that I'm with the guy of my dreams—in every way except that he's bear-shaped and that's not my thing. I've gotten to the point where I don't even want to go out with friends because I'm afraid I'll have a few beers and end up giving in to my own urges to play around with another guy and I don't want to cheat. My partner is generally GGG when it comes to trying new things, but it's not really working. I'm just not attracted to my guy sexually.

Please don't say, "Well, if you don't want to fuck him, you should just move on." I'm looking for some real advice. My partner and I have talked about three-ways, messing around with another couple, things like that. I haven't felt comfortable exploring that area because I think he would have an emotional meltdown if I actually expressed an interest in any other guy.

Seeking A Solution

Okay...

I'm forbidden to offer you the obvious advice—leave the boyfriend because you're not sexually attracted to him—because you would be another "real advice." And since you're not going to leave, I guess it would be a waste of time to point out that your creeping sense of misery and despair, which has you medicating yourself to stay in this relationship, is only going to get worse. And I can't advise you to sleep around, as that would be cheating. And you can't open the relationship up because your boyfriend, with whom you enjoy a "high degree of honesty," would have an emotional meltdown if you told him the truth about how you're feeling.

So what advice do I have for you? Uh... gee. Start drinking heavily. I guess, because you're really fucked, SAS. Your sexual dissatisfaction and sense of being trapped are only going to grow—until, of course, those feelings are overtaken by feelings of resentment, and soon thereafter you'll be subconsciously sabotaging the relationship in a desperate effort to act on a completely understandable desire: to be intimate with someone who actually turns you on.

Look, SAS, I'm not trying to be an asshole. (Being an asshole has always come easy to me.) But I want to tell you to leave—to part now on good terms, to accept that this wasn't meant to be, to convert the boyfriend back to a friend—just as you suspected I would. And you ruled that advice out. So I did the best I could under the circumstances.

FOR THE PAST 15 YEARS, I'VE IDENTIFIED AS bisexual: I've been in monogamous relationships with men and women. I married a wonderful guy a few years ago. However, I recently realized that I identify as gay. I've talked to my husband about this and he's okay with it. I decided to stay with him and remain monogamous. We

## Savage Love

DAN SAVAGE

have a great relationship—and great sex. We left open the possibility of me taking a female lover in the future, if needed. For now, I'm happy with him. I flirt with girls, we talk openly about my preferences, but I haven't had sex with a woman since before I married him. And I'm okay with that.

So, here's my dilemma: Is it right to call myself a lesbian if I'm married to (and sexually involved with) a man? I hesitate to stay with the "bi" label, since I have no interest in other men. Can I call myself a lesbian even though I'm not sleeping with women?

Lesbian And Married To A Man

No.

I WANTED TO RESPOND TO AN UNMARRIED Woman. As a result of her "nice, funny" husband-material boyfriend's "boring" sexual style, AUW has begun to cheat on him with her ex-boyfriend.

I married my version of her boyfriend. So did many of my friends. Years later, all of us have:

- (1) left our nice husbands because the sex was so unexciting;
- (2) had affairs; or
- (3) complained endlessly about how we feel trapped and frustrated in our sexually unfulfilling marriages.

AUW needs to walk away and she needs to do it now—before she feels crummy about cheating, before she "settles for" bad sex as a trade-off for "settling down," and before she has any kids whose lives will be affected by their future unhappiness and whatever steps she takes to deal with it.

Part of the problem here is that your standard advice to DTMFA doesn't always apply, Dan. AUW's boyfriend is not a motherfucker; he's a good, decent, caring, funny, responsible man, a potential life partner. Women are strangely socialized to downplay their own sexual needs in relation to their desire for security and stability. We're taught that this is the mature decision, and that what's important is that we choose the "good" guy. Only trailer-park stiffs—ignorant and sex-driven—would value good sex above all that more "important" stuff.

But as you well know, Dan, good sex is damn important, and our desire for it doesn't necessarily fade over time. AUW

should think about this: Even when there's a strong sexual connection, over time the novelty wears off, people have to "work" at keeping the sex hot, and children and bills and the daily grind take their toll. Where does she think she and Mr. Nice Guy will wind up sexually in 10 years if they have an uninspired sex life now?

AUW should wait for someone who "worships [her] pussy" and who is in other ways appropriate for the long haul. You can get a lot of your needs met outside of

marriage, AUW, without being unfaithful. You can laugh, talk, go to movies, knit, eat, with friends, and it's okay. But once you go outside the marriage to fuck, you have crossed a heavy line. Marry someone who can meet your sexual needs.

Me And Everyone I Know

Thanks for sharing, MAEK, and you're right—DTMFA doesn't apply in this instance. So let's coin a new catchphrase. You like him/her but he/she bores the hell out of you? "Try and let that person—that kind,

good person—down as easily as you can. Be careful with their heart!" Or, "TALP—TKGP—DAEAYC. BCWTH!" Hmm, kind of unwieldy. Got a better idea, readers? Send it in.

Oh, and lots more advice for AUW can be found at [www.thisstranger.com/savage/unmarriedwoman](http://www.thisstranger.com/savage/unmarriedwoman).

Download Savage Lovecast (my weekly podcast) every Tuesday at [www.thisstranger.com/savage/mail@savagelove.net](http://www.thisstranger.com/savage/mail@savagelove.net)



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